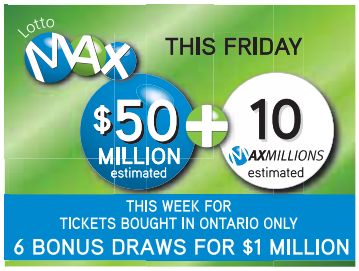
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MAKE IT A PRIORITY
WOMEN URGED TO GET FREE MAMMOGRAMS
{page 41}

SNOW JOB
GAGA FURIOUS OVER WEATHER
DISH {page 40}

TORONTO metro®
Tuesday, December 21, 2010
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News worth sharing.

Leafs. Lose

▶ Maple Leafs goalie Jonas Gustavsson makes a save against the Thrashers last night.

NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Homecoming not so sweet

Tobias Enstrom had two goals and two assists as the Atlanta Thrashers downed the Leafs 6-3 last night. Freddy Modin added two goals against his former team. Mikhail Grabovski scored for the fourth game in a row as part of a brief third-period Leafs rally that ultimately fell short. Game recap online at metronews.ca/sports

Bell gets rung up for $1.3M

CRTC hits Bell Canada with largest penalty ever for violating Telecom Act ◐ Telemarketers called thousands of people on Do Not Call list

The CRTC sent a blunt Do-Not-Mess-With-Us message yesterday about the Do Not Call List, hitting Bell Canada with a $1.3-million penalty for violating telemarketing rules.

The telecommunications regulator found that independent telemarketers hired by Bell in Canada and overseas made unsolicited calls to Canadians to sell TV, telephone and Internet services.

They called consumers who had signed up for the national Do Not Call List, or had asked Bell Canada to be put on the company's internal, no-calls list.

It is by far the biggest penalty the CRTC has ever slapped on a company for breaking the Unsolicited Telecommunications Rules under the Telecom Act.

Industry Minister Tony Clement applauded the CRTC action.

"Our government is committed to working with the CRTC on the enforcement of the rules of the program," he said in a press release.

"In imposing these penalties, the Harper government is proving that we are prepared to take serious and decisive steps to protect Canadians from the intrusiveness of unsolicited telemarketing calls."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Automated devices used

- The regulator also found that Bell broke Do Not Call rules by using automated calling devices to contact prepaid mobile customers.
- Automated calling devices can only be used with a consumer's prior consent, or by police, fire departments, schools and hospitals with a public service message.
- Bell Canada didn't admit it was at fault in the case, but voluntarily stopped the calls and made a $266,000 donation to the Institute for Information and Systems Engineering at Concordia University.

Elevating his transit thinking?

Ford may be open to raised LRT tracks {page 6}

Harper gets his majority

Appointments give Conservatives upper hand in Senate {page 9}

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OPP raids result in 4 charges

Four people have been charged with breach of trust and fraud following a police investigation into cleaning contracts at Ontario government buildings in downtown Toronto.

Provincial police yesterday charged two workers at the Ministry of Transportation and one at the Ministry of Economic Development with breach of trust and accepting a secret commission.

A fourth accused, a manager at CB Richard Ellis Global Corporate Services, was charged with fraud under $5,000.

The OPP say its anti-rackets branch began an investigation in September 2009 into irregular financial transactions relating to cash and cleaning services at government offices.

The force executed nine search warrants at different ministry offices and people's homes, and says the "complex" investigation involved a significant amount of evidence.

All four accused are scheduled to appear in court in Toronto in late January or early February.

Transportation Minister Kathleen Wynne said government officials have fully co-operated throughout the police investigation.

"The Ontario Public Service consists of hard-working, dedicated individuals committed to providing the public services Ontarians rely on," said Wynne.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Charged

- **Gino Conicella, 47,** a project co-ordinator for the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade.
- **Michaele Depace, 47,** an employee of the Ministry of Transportation.
- **Kathy Pagliaroli, 40,** a business support analyst with the Ministry of Transportation.
- **Ivanna Presot, 46,** a customer service manager with CB Richard Ellis.

Off-key carols right note for the holidays

Jokes fly at annual Caroling for Kids ◗ Family and friends tradition funnels money toward charity

Candy-cane antlers, top hats, snowflake sweater vests and Christmas carols — all sung off-key.

A professional piano player is tickling the ivories. Will Ferrell's Elf is playing on a flat-screen TV and, underneath, a row of carollers revel in the classics, belting it out as if they're the Whos of Whoville.

They've been practising their solos, says Koel Loyer, 34, even if it doesn't sound like it. It doesn't.

This is Brady and Alex Jones' annual Caroling for Kids. A gathering of friends and family that, to date, has raised $10,000 in donations for Ronald McDonald Children's Charities.

It has also produced many hangovers, a consequence of rowdy friends and family finally squeezing in a night during a frenzied holiday season.

"No one sings Christmas carols anymore. So it was a way to get everyone in the mood for the holidays with friends and family."
BRADY JONES, 27

The carolling began huddled around a piano in the Joneses' living room five years ago. A group of friends in its finest ugly Christmas sweaters (think reindeer and cats with Santa hats) forging its own holiday tradition.

Today, the guest list tops 150 people. The venue has moved to cosy downtown bar Cabin Five. Everyone gets a booklet with 20 odd songs to plow through.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

DAVID COOPER/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

▶ Alex Jones, in candy-cane antlers, and Tucker Grant get into the spirit during the fourth annual Caroling for Kids at Cabin Five, a downtown pub.

1 news

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Mike Benhaim gets into the list season spirit with his favourite new artists of 2010. More at metronews.ca/backbeat

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Oakville. Fatalities

▶ OPP investigate a single-vehicle crash that claimed the lives of two men yesterday morning on the Queen Elizabeth Way in Oakville.

ANDREW WALLACE/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

2 men killed in QEW crash

Scott Ineson, 31, of Burlington was one of two men who died in a single-vehicle crash on the Queen Elizabeth Way in Oakville yesterday as they drove to work at about 6 a.m. The two were travelling in a Honda Civic when the vehicle left the eastbound lane, entered a ditch and finally hit a utility pole, said OPP Sgt. Dave Woodford. The accident closed the Bronte Road ramp to the Toronto-bound lanes.

Weather woes keep plaguing weary travellers

Air Canada advising Europe-bound clients to check its website for flight status before leaving for airport

Travellers dealing with cancelled or delayed flights at Toronto's Pearson airport were scrambling yesterday to find new flights to Europe in time for Christmas.

Most travellers whose flights to the U.K. were cancelled seemed weary but good-humoured, trading stories of their attempts to re-book and talking about what awaits them at home.

Limitations

- Air Canada said it is only able to operate one-third of its normal schedule through London's Heathrow Airport, with just six takeoffs and landings allowed yesterday.

Antonia Jones, a Brit studying at Queen's University, says she's spent a lot of money on a backup flight scheduled to leave Thursday, but she's still hoping to find an earlier seat.

Jones says if she can't make it home by Christmas it won't be worth going home at all, since she has to return early January for school.

Snow and freezing temperatures are causing travel chaos in Britain and much of Europe.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

'More children should have their essential rights realized'

This Christmas, Jaya Murthy is trading in his bulletproof vest for some time well spent with extended family in Toronto.

The Manitoba native is stationed in Iraq as the chief of strategic communications and partnerships for UNICEF.

While in Toronto for the holidays, his nieces and nephews remind him of the basic necessities many children in the world are not afforded.

"The longer I (am in the field), the more I realize how fortunate we are here in Canada where our government functions well and there are so many essential services provided for us," said Murthy. "More children should have their essential rights realized."

Before Iraq, the 34-year-old spent seven years in Africa, mainly the Democratic Republic of Congo.

CONTRIBUTED

▶ Jaya Murthy

"I remember talking to mothers in a nutrition centre (in the Congo), where their children were just skin and bones and them saying all they wanted is for their children to grow up, have food and be healthy," said Murthy.

According to Murthy, there are more than 100,000 children suffering from severe acute malnutrition in the Congo alone.

He admits there are times when field work is relentless. Coming face-to-face with rebel forces and fighting to free child soldiers would make even the most passionate humanitarian worker question his career path.

But for Murthy, he says helping others is who he is.

METRO

Want to help?

- Looking for your way to help those in need? Visit unicefgiftsofmagic.ca.

Pedestrian killed after collision

A 76-year-old woman who was hit by a minivan in Oshawa has died of her injuries.

Durham Regional police say Maria Lazarich of Oshawa was crossing the intersection of Phillip Murray Avenue and Tremblay Street when she was hit by the vehicle Saturday evening.

Lazarich was airlifted to Sunnybrook Hospital in Toronto with life-threatening head injuries.

Police say she died of her injuries Sunday.

The investigation continues and police are asking anyone with information to call them.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Officer charged with DUI

A Toronto police officer has been charged with impaired driving while off duty.

Police say Const. Ravneet Dhillon, 25, who has two years of service with the Toronto police, was arrested early Saturday morning.

Investigators allege that Dhillon drove his car into a pole in the west end.

He was charged with impaired driving and having over 80 milligrams of alcohol in 100 millilitres of blood.

Dhillon is scheduled to appear in court on Feb. 7.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ex-flight attendant jailed over cocaine plot

A former Air Canada flight attendant from Mississauga has been jailed eight years for smuggling almost $400,000 worth of cocaine into London, England.

Mandeep Shahi, 27, was sentenced yesterday by the Southwark Crown Court in London after pleading guilty in September for her role in what police call a "cocaine conspiracy" to import at least four kilograms of cocaine into West London as she travelled from Pearson to Heathrow airports last March.

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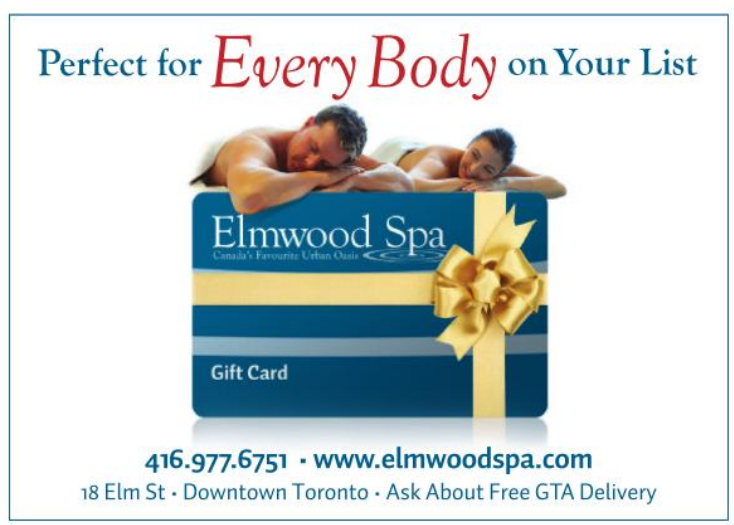
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Will Ford bend on elevated transit for city?

TTC studying costs, implications of elevated rail, says spokesman Signs mayor might accept underground LRT

Elevated transit is among the alternatives Metrolinx is considering to address Toronto Mayor Rob Ford's concerns about street-level light rail that takes away car lanes from city streets.

There are already North American examples, including Vancouver and the Scarborough RT, where elevated light rail has proved effective, said Metrolinx chief executive officer Bruce McCuaig, who met with senior staff in Ford's office on Friday.

The new mayor says he doesn't want light rail tracks impeding cars on Toronto streets. He has ordered the TTC back to the drawing board on the $8.15 billion Metrolinx-funded light rail plan for Sheppard, Finch and Eglinton avenues and the Scarborough RT.

RENE JOHNSTON/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

▶ Mayor Rob Ford

Although Ford has pledged to take transit underground, there are signs he might accept underground LRT, such as that planned for about 10 kilometres on Eglinton, as an alternative to subways.

McCuaig said there may be other ways, including elevated tracks, to address the mayor's key concern about leaving room for cars on the road.

Metrolinx and TTC officials will also be looking at places in the existing light rail plan where the street could be widened and the impact on car turning minimized.

Although it can be tricky to fit into the urban landscape, elevated rail costs less than tunneling, said McCuaig. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

G20 conspiracy charge dropped for student

One of 19 people accused of conspiracy during the G20 summit in Toronto has had her charges dropped.

The Finch Avenue West courtroom erupted with cheers yesterday as the Crown announced there were no reasonable grounds to proceed with charges against Jaroslava Avila, a University of Toronto political science student arrested Sept. 29. Avila had been facing three counts of conspiracy to commit an indictable offence. She is described as an indigenous peoples' activist.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

18

The other 18 people accused of conspiracy during the G20 were scheduled to appear in court Jan. 31 for a preliminary inquiry into their charges.

▶ The Guelph research team analyzed data collected from 108 mating chases involving 85 female squirrels.

RANDY RODENTS

SQUIRRELS SLEEP WITH EVERY POTENTIAL MATE, STUDY SHOWS

There's a reason female squirrels are so promiscuous and it can't be blamed on their mothers.

As it turns out, the randy rodents mostly sleep with whoever shows up, according to researchers at the University of Guelph.

Whether a female squirrel picks one mate or 14 — the highest one-day tally recorded in the study — has little to do with genetics, said Eryn McFarlane, a graduate student at the university and the project's lead researcher. "It's due to their environment, to what they encounter," she said. Namely, how many male squirrels are around at the time, she added.

The study, published in the journal Biology Letters, is the first to suggest that genetics have little impact on squirrels' mating habits.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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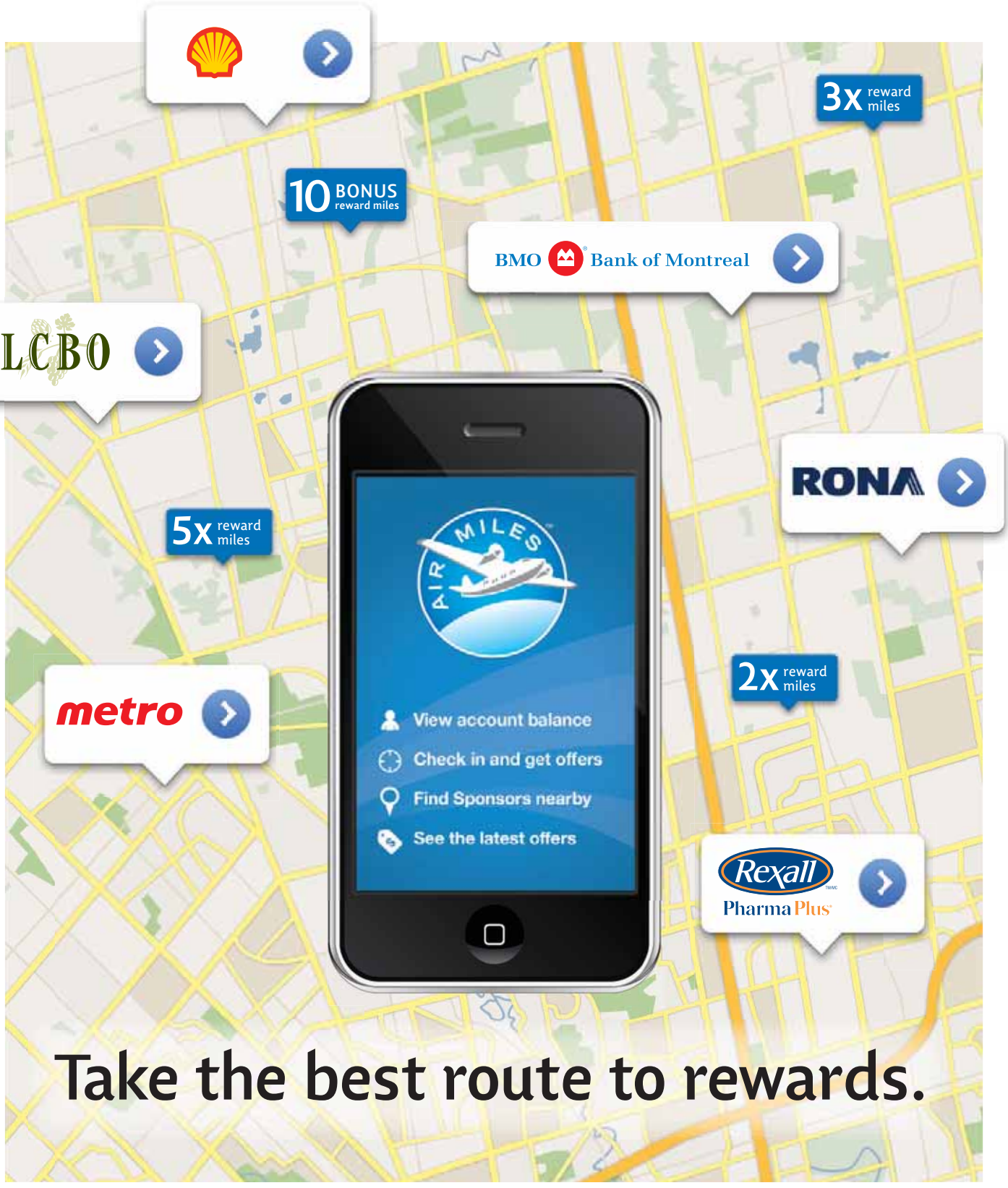

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ONLINE

Arab Christians named on site linked to al-Qaida

More than 100 Canadian-Arab Christians are listed on an al-Qaida-affiliated website, apparently targeted because of their alleged role in attempting to convert Muslims.

Some of those named say concerned Canadian intelligence officials have contacted them.

The Shumukh-al-Islam website, often considered to be al-Qaida's mouthpiece, listed pictures, addresses and cellphone numbers of Coptic Christians, predominantly Egyptian-Canadians, who have been vocal about their opposition to Islam.

In a forum on the website, one member named Son of a Sharp Sword, says "We are going to return back to Islam and all of the Mujahedeen (holy warriors) will cut off their heads."

"This is a direct threat against our lives," said Samuel Tawadrus, a Coptic Egyptian living in Quebec who is among those named on the website.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Effort to remove Craigslist prostitution ads continues

THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Ontario Attorney General Chris Bentley's ministry was still trying yesterday to determine if Craigslist had agreed to its request to remove prostitution-related ads from its Canadian site.

▶ 'We've got to keep pushing,' says attorney general's spokesman

A push to get Craigslist to remove ads for prostitutes from its Canadian websites continued yesterday, despite a move by the San Francisco-based company during the weekend to eliminate its erotic services section.

The federal and Ontario governments expressed cautious optimism Saturday after the erotic services section disappeared from most of Craigslist's Canadian websites.

However, a couple of mouse clicks yesterday quickly revealed classified ads for prostitutes were still being posted on Craigslist for Canadian cities in the therapeutic services section. Price lists for various acts accompanied some postings, although without the sexually explicit pictures that had previously been offered. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Senate majority sealed

PM appoints former CFL star and commish, preacher to upper house

Prime Minister Stephen Harper has gained through appointments to the Senate what he's been unable to win by elections to the House of Commons: A majority.

The Conservatives took unquestioned control over Canada's upper house yesterday with the naming of two new senators — former CFL star and later commissioner Larry Smith and Don Meredith, a Toronto preacher and failed Conservative candidate.

38 Number of senators Prime Minister Stephen Harper has appointed, after once vowing never to appoint unelected senators.

The appointments give the Conservatives 54 seats, a thin majority in the 105-seat Senate. The Tories have effectively controlled the Senate for the last six months, but this is the first time in 20 years they've enjoyed a true majority.

Meredith is co-founder of the Greater Toronto Area Faith Alliance, an interfaith group that focuses on finding solutions to youth violence. He has served on community advisory bodies for the Toronto and York Region police forces, as well as the RCMP. He ran for the Tories in a 2008 byelection against Liberal Bob Rae in Toronto Centre. Rae won handily, with Meredith taking 12.5 per cent of the vote. THE CANADIAN PRESS

JIM WILKES/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

▶ Don Meredith

Moon. Lit

▶ Three hikers watch an almost-full moon rise in Switzerland yesterday.

ALESSANDRO DELLA BELLA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A total eclipse of the moon

If you slept through last night you should have awoken refreshed but missed something that last occurred 372 years ago when the English and French had just started squabbling over the fur trade in Canada — a red moon winter solstice total lunar eclipse. NASA says it last occurred in 1638, when Charles I was on the throne in England.

Another arrest in '04 Barrie pot bust

30,000 The number of marijuana plants seized at the former Molson brewery off Highway 400 in Barrie in 2004.

Ontario Provincial Police have arrested another man in a years-long investigation into a massive marijuana grow-op uncovered in a former brewery.

Police charged a dozen people from Ontario and Quebec in October, six years after the drug operation was discovered in Barrie.

The OPP obtained an international arrest warrant for Robert Derosa, 51, of Phelpston, and on Saturday he was arrested in Cuba while trying to board a flight to South America.

He faces 13 charges including trafficking marijuana, conspiracy to traffic firearms and belonging to a criminal organization.

Officers swarmed a former Molson brewery in Barrie in January 2004 and seized 30,000 marijuana plants. At the time, police called it the largest marijuana grow operation to be uncovered in Canada.

Nine people who lived at the abandoned plant were arrested in the initial raid. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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News in brief

New Iraqi cabinet named

BAGHDAD. Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki submitted his new cabinet yesterday, clearing a hurdle to seating a government more than nine months after national elections. But nearly one-third of the nominees were only acting ministers, an attempt to buy time to work out disagreements with a key part of al-Maliki's coalition — the hardline Shiite faction loyal to anti-American cleric Muqtada al-Sadr.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

39 injured in Kenyan blast

KENYA. A bomb exploded at a downtown bus station in Kenya's capital late yesterday as passengers boarded a bus, killing at least one person and wounding up to 39 others, police said. Suspicions centred on a Somali militant group.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Guide for pedophiles author arrested

FLORIDA. Florida officials filed an obscenity charge yesterday against the author of a self-published how-to guide for pedophiles that was yanked from Amazon.com last month.

Polk County sheriff's deputies arrested Philip Ray Greaves II at his home in Pueblo, Colo., and charged him with violating Florida's obscenity law.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Korean tensions escalate further

U.S. intelligence and communications personnel take part in drills ● China supports North's stance

South Korea's military staged live-fire drills from an island just a few kilometres from rival North Korea's shores yesterday, despite Pyongyang's threats of catastrophic retaliation for the manoeuvres.

Seoul launched fighter jets, evacuated hundreds of people away from its tense land border with the North and sent residents of front-line islands into underground bunkers in case of attack, but the North finally said it would hold its own fire.

The 90-minute exercise came nearly one month after the North responded to earlier manoeuvres by shelling Yeonpyeong Island, killing two marines and two construction workers in its first attack targeting civilian areas since the 1950-53 Korean War. That clash sent tensions soaring between the two countries — which are still technically at war.

On Sunday, diplomats meeting at the United Nations in New York failed to find any solution to the crisis, but there was some sign of diplomacy yesterday, as a high-profile American governor announced what he said were two nuclear concessions from the North.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Former North Korean defectors pay silent tribute during a rally for victims from North Korea's attack.

Dispute

North Korea claims the waters around Yeonpyeong as its territory.

- During last month's artillery exchange, the North accused the South of firing artillery into its waters; the South said it fired shells southward, not toward the North.
- The North kept its rhetoric heated, saying it will use its powerful military to blow up South Korean and American bases.
- South Korea's joint chiefs of staff said its artillery was fired in the same direction as during last month's manoeuvres: Toward waters southwest of the island, not toward the North.

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Soldiers mark last Christmas in Kandahar

Canadians add some festive cheer to war-torn Afghanistan ◐ Gifts from home raise spirits

The weather outside is always frightful, and when you're under fire, it's never delightful.

And what Canadian soldiers wouldn't give to let it snow, even just a little to brighten the drab, winter-scorched farmland of western Panjwaii.

Peace on Earth and good will to all men seems far away this season, almost as distant as it was when troops celebrated their first Christmas amid the ruins of this stark land almost seven years ago.

Dec. 25 is expected to come and go with the grind of army orders and routine of patrols along bomb-sewn laneways in mud-moulded villages.

There is some holiday cheer; decorations here and there around Kandahar Airfield.

Soldiers have started to receive packages, little creature comforts such as favourite blankets, gloves and other nicknacks, all dutifully mailed by relatives.

A spartan combat outpost in Fathullah has a full-sized artificial tree that was shipped over by the wife of a soldier.

It is complete with ornaments and lights.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

"Some guys will likely cry on the 25th because they don't have their kids here."

MASTER CPL. STEPHANE GELINAS

MURRAY BREWSTER/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Master Cpl. Stephane Gelinas decorates a tree at a combat outpost in the Panjwaii district.

INSURANCE FRAUD

Top bogus claims of the year

Manitoba's auto insurer has released the biggest claims frauds of 2010.

Manitoba Public Insurance says at the top of the list is a man who denied crashing his car. He told claims investigators it was stolen, but DNA from blood on the steering wheel proved he was involved. In second place is a man who came forward after four years to admit he deliberately burned a vehicle that belonged to his one-time fiancée.

Another man reported his vehicle had been struck in a parking lot, but an investigation found he simply ran into a snowbank and sign.

MPI's special investigations unit has recovered fraudulent claims worth more than $50 million in the last five years.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Family identifies face donor

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MURAT CETINMUHURDAR/TURKISH PRESIDENCY PRESS OFFICE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Turkey's President Abdullah Gul, left, and his counterpart Gurbanguly Berdymukhamedov of Turkmenistan aboard the MV Savarona, which was once used by Turkey's founder Mustafa Kemal Ataturk.

Alleged leaders of prostitution ring on trial

Turkish authorities busted prostitution ring on luxury yacht in Sept. Historic vessel could become a museum

The late founder of modern Turkey met Cabinet ministers and hosted foreign envoys aboard the MV Savarona, one of the world's largest yachts, shortly before his death in 1938.

Generations later, according to prosecutors, the luxury vessel played host to an illicit side of life as the stage for an international prostitution ring whose alleged ringleaders went on trial yesterday.

One of the suspects Tevfik Arif, a Kazakh businessman, is accused of financing a sex party aboard the MV Savarona.

10
The 10 suspects face charges including human smuggling, encouraging prostitution and establishing a crime ring, the Anatolia news agency said.

Arif denied the accusations and was released pending trial along with four other suspects, the Anatolia news agency said.

Turkey deported nine Russian and Ukrainian women, including two minors, after authorities said they busted a prostitution ring aboard the MV Savarona in late September.

The prosecutors have alleged that Arif organized the parties for prominent foreign businessmen in Turkey to secure business deals. The businessman, called the charges "imaginary." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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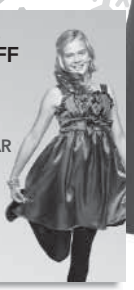

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UN ignores Gbagbo's call to exit Ivory Coast

EU eyes assets freeze, visa ban on incumbent leader, wife U.S. also prepared to impose targeted sanctions

The top UN envoy in Ivory Coast yesterday condemned intimidation tactics against UN personnel, saying armed men were threatening staff after the United Nations ignored Laurent Gbagbo's demand that thousands of peacekeepers leave the country.

A spokesman for Gbagbo said he doubted soldiers or those supporting Gbagbo would be involved in such tactics.

Meanwhile, the UN Security Council called on all parties to recognize opposition leader Alassane Ouattara as Ivory Coast's president. A resolution adopted unanimously yesterday stepped up pressure on Gbagbo to concede defeat.

BRENNAN LINSLEY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Laurent Gbagbo

The United Nations has also vowed to continue its mission despite the order from Gbagbo to leave.

Ivory Coast was once an economic hub because of its role as the world's top cocoa producer. The civil war split the country in a rebel-controlled north and a loyalist south. While it officially reunited in 2007, Ouattara still draws his support from the north while Gbagbo's power base is in the south.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ukraine. Tymoshenko

▶ Former Ukranian prime minister and opposition leader Yulia Tymoshenko arrives at the Prosecutor General's Office in Kiev, Ukraine, yesterday after Ukraine's prosecutor general launched a criminal case against Tymoshenko, accusing her of abuse of power.

SERGEI CHUZAVKOV/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ex-PM accused of misusing funds

Former Ukrainian prime minister Yulia Tymoshenko says prosecutors have charged her with misspending $280 million during her time in office, charges she denies. Tymoshenko stands accused of using money from the sale of carbon credits under the Kyoto protocol to pay pensions amid a severe recession. Tymoshenko is a fierce rival of pro-Moscow President Viktor Yanukoyvch. She finished narrowly behind him in elections this year.

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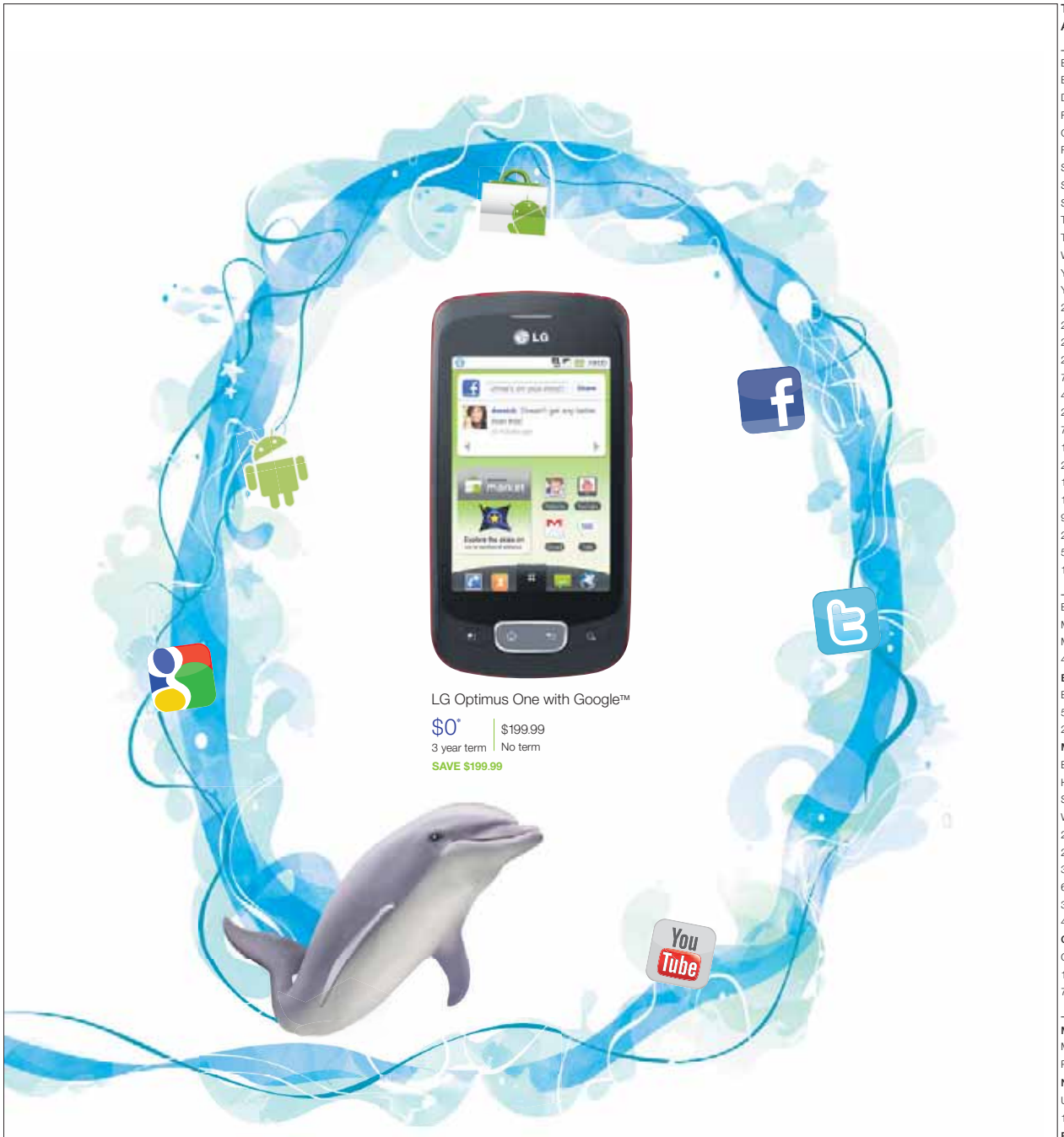

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NIGERIA

Facebook initiative to aid reading

Nigeria's president says he is launching a book chronicling his Facebook interactions with his Facebook friends to encourage reading as Africa's most populous country heads into an election year.

President Goodluck Jonathan said yesterday that he decided to compile his Facebook conversations in the book titled My Friends And I, because he wanted to "encourage a reading culture and promote responsible and accountable governance at all levels."

He acknowledged his Facebook friends as the "men and women who have been advising him."

The book launch, peppered with performances by some of Nigeria's biggest singers, was one event in a series planned to encourage reading among Nigerian youth.

Jonathan became president in May following the death of Umaru Yar'Adua. Previously, the People's Democratic Party member had served as acting president during his predecessor's illness.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Leader declares victory

SERGEI GRITS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko speaks to media yesterday during a news conference in Minsk.

Belarus vote marred by crackdown

Belarus's autocratic President Alexander Lukashenko appeared to have quashed any immediate threat to his continuing rule, declaring yesterday that he was the overwhelming winner of a presidential election that ended with a violent crackdown on reformists hoping for change.

No demonstrations occurred in the capital Minsk last night, an indication that things were returning to normal in Belarus, one of the most authoritarian of the former Soviet states.

Lukashenko exercises overwhelming control over politics, industry and media in this nation of 10 million bordering Poland and the Baltic nations.

His autocratic style was on display at his first post-election news conference at which he criticized opposition candidates for refusing to tolerate the brutal excesses of the Belarusian police.

"What a disgrace. They wanted to become presidents. What kind of president are you if you are whacked in the face and you cry blue murder? Why are you howling? What kind of president are you? You should put up with it!"

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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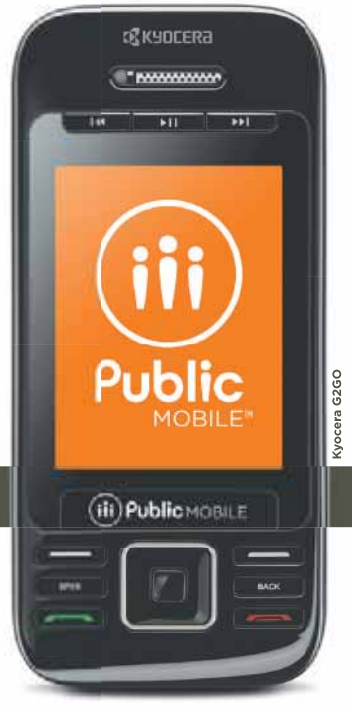

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Chinatown Centre
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945 College St
101 Spadina Ave
1190 Bloor St W
531 Yonge St
105 Dundas St E
327 Queen St E
1875 Eglinton Ave W
1351 Queen St W
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Keeping you in the know and on the GO

Starting Saturday, January 1, 2011*, we're increasing GO Bus service and making some changes too.

25 – WATERLOO GO BUS

We're adding several new weekday and weekend trips. The Friday 2:25 p.m., 4:20, 5:20 and 6:25 trips from the University of Waterloo will now depart **10 minutes earlier.**

31 – GEORGETOWN GO BUS

A new weekday eastbound trip will depart the Bramalea GO Station at 12:20 p.m., serve Malton GO Station at 12:30, and arrive at the Union Station GO Bus Terminal at 1:00. Two new weekday westbound trips will depart Union at 1:00 p.m. and 9:15, and run express to the Malton and Bramalea GO Stations.

Three new weekday westbound trips will depart Union at 11:20 a.m., 12:20 p.m. and 1:20, run express to Brampton, then serve all stops to the Brampton Bus Terminal.

The weekday westbound 12:50 p.m. trip from Union to the Brampton Bus Terminal will be extended to the Georgetown GO Station.

There will also be earlier departures on many trips so be sure to check the new schedule.

32 – BRAMPTON TRINITY COMMON GO BUS

There will be **earlier departures** on most eastbound trips, **earlier departures** on some westbound trips, and some times have been adjusted to better reflect typical travel times.

37 – ORANGEVILLE GO BUS

There will be **earlier departures** on most southbound trips and some adjustments to northbound trips to better reflect typical travel time.

38 – BOLTON-HWY. 27 GO BUS & BOLTON-HWY. 50 GO BUS

There will be **earlier departures** on most trips and some times have been adjusted to better reflect typical travel times.

46 – HWY. 407 WEST GO BUS

A new weekday westbound trip will depart Square One at 7:32 a.m. and run express to McMaster. Two new weekday eastbound trips will depart McMaster at 7:10 p.m. and 8:10, then serve Square One and the Bramalea GO Station.

52 – HWY. 407 EAST GO BUS

Times between Scarborough Town Centre and the Pickering GO Station have been adjusted to better reflect typical travel times.

The weekday westbound 7:30 p.m. and 8:30 trips from Mount Joy GO Station will be discontinued due to low ridership. Customers may take the 6:55, 8:00 or 9:00 trips instead.

61 – RICHMOND HILL GO BUS

There are minor adjustments on some trips to better reflect typical travel times.

65 – BARRIE-BRADFORD GO BUS

A new weekday southbound trip will depart Aurora GO Station at 5:20 a.m., serve the Aurora Carpool Lot at 5:28 and arrive at the Union Station GO Bus Terminal at 6:00. Two new weekday northbound trips will depart Union at 6:55 p.m. and 7:55 and run express to Aurora.

A new weekday southbound trip will depart East Gwillimbury GO Station at 10:30 a.m., serve the Newmarket GO Bus Terminal at 10:42, Aurora GO Station at 10:55, the Aurora Carpool Lot at 11:02, and arrive at Union at 11:40.

Three new weekday northbound trips will depart Union at 9:30 p.m., 10:30 and 11:30 and run express to Newmarket.

NEW BRADFORD BUS LOOP

Buses will now use the new bus loop at the Bradford GO Station instead of the stops at Bridge & Dissette.

With this change, southbound trips will depart Barrie Bus Terminal **five minutes earlier.**

Departures will also be earlier in Stroud, Churchill, Bradford (Barrie @ John), the Bradford GO Station and Holland Landing. Arrival times at the Newmarket GO Bus Terminal remain the same.

71 – STOUFFVILLE GO BUS

A new weekday northbound trip will depart Union Station at 1:50 p.m., run express to Markham GO Station, then serve all stops and arrive in Uxbridge at 3:05. The weekday northbound 1:40 p.m. trip from Union will now end at the Centennial GO Station.

A new weekday northbound trip will depart Union at 2:20 p.m., run express to Markham, then serve all stops and arrive at Lincolnville at 3:20. The weekday northbound 2:10 p.m. trip from Union will now end at Centennial.

81 – PORT PERRY GO BUS

There will be some earlier departures from Port Perry and at other stops along the route.

88 – PETERBOROUGH GO BUS

There will be earlier departures from Trent University on some trips.

*Please note that on Saturday, January 1, 2011, our service will operate on a holiday schedule.

Happy New Year from GO Transit!

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Docs being held back by feds

Socialist icon Tommy Douglas's dossier is more than 1,140 pages long

Saskatchewan New Democrats are concerned that Ottawa may not release all of the decades-old intelligence on socialist icon Tommy Douglas.

The federal government is relenting on its refusal to release documents on Douglas, who was a premier of Saskatchewan and then the federal NDP's first leader.

It's now promising to review the file and release additional material by March 31.

But Saskatchewan NDP Leader Dwain Lingenfelter says the government shouldn't censor any information on the man widely revered as the father of medicare.

Lingenfelter said the Douglas family wants the documents released and he adds that doing so will help Canadians' understand that period of history.

Some heavily censored pages already released show that RCMP security officers shadowed Douglas for more than three decades, but the government refused to release further information citing national security concerns.

The battle over the file began in November 2005 when reporter Jim Bronskill made a request, under the Access to Information Act, for the RCMP dossier on Douglas.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

CHUCK MITCHELL/THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

▶ Tommy Douglas

Christmas. Greeting

▶ Pope Benedict XVI looks on yesterday during the traditional exchange of Christmas greetings to the Curia in the Regia Hall at the Vatican.

ALESSANDRA TARANTINO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Reflecting on the past

Benedict XVI said yesterday the Catholic Church must reflect on what is wrong with its message and Christian life in general that allowed for the widespread sexual abuse of children by priests. While accepting responsibility for the scandal, Benedict said the abuse must also be seen in the broader social context, in which child pornography and sexual tourism are rampant.

Babysitter faces drug, weapons charges

Three people in Leamington, Ont., have been charged with drug and weapons offences after police investigated a report of possible child abandonment. Provincial police were called to an apartment building Friday with a report that a two-year-old boy had been banging on a door and crying for two hours.

When police arrived they said they found the child, but detected the smell of previously smoked marijuana and found several non-discharged shotgun shells.

An 18-year-old man who was sleeping on the couch told police he was babysitting his nephew.

The man, a 25-year-old woman and a 29-year-old man, all from Leamington, were charged with possession of marijuana and careless use of a firearm.

The two-year-old boy and his six-year-old brother — who was at school at the time — were taken into the care of the Children's Aid Society.

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ENCYCLOPEDIA OF SIGNATURE DRINKS

She says ...

JESSICA NAPIER

'Tis the season to get a bit festive, and if your family is anything like mine, "festive" means, well ... drunk.

What can I say; we all get a little too merry around the holidays. With so many libations to overindulge in, it's good to remind yourself what your cocktail of choice says about your personality. After all, you are what you drink.

Wine: You're mature and sophisticated, or at least you want people to think you are. You carry on pseudo-intellectual conversations and roll your eyes at people who mispronounce Gewürztraminer.

Domestic beer: You're a Canadian.

Imported beer: You're a Canadian who went to Europe for a couple of weeks.

Cosmopolitan: You think your drink is super cute and it totally matches your shoes and, oh my God, you're such a Carrie, no wait — you're totally a Samantha.

Red Bull and vodka: You are three months away from a full-blown cocaine addiction — or a heart attack.

Screwdriver: This is your first time at a bar and you saw someone on TV order this drink once.

Whisky: You're sporting a non-ironic moustache and own a diverse collection of sweater vests.

Shots: The drink of choice of the young, single and desperate to get laid.

Malt liquor: You drive a pick-up truck and have no taste buds.

Martini: You're a relatively experienced drinker that doesn't mind sitting alone at the bar because your Bluetooth headset makes you feel important. On the other hand, you might be James Bond.

Pimms: You enjoy polo shirts, tennis and speaking in a fake British accent.

Caesar: You haven't stopped drinking since the night before and are wondering why on Earth those lights are so f—ing bright.

Rum: Ahoy there!

Jägermeister: You are younger than 22 and intend on making some terrible life decisions before the end of the night.

Champagne: Two words, high maintenance.

Hard lemonade: Your older brother just bought you and your friends a four-pack of fluorescent-coloured alcho-pops that you think are just so badass. Don't worry; your high school party will have plenty of bushes for you to puke in.

Sherry: Ah, Frasier Crane — how nice of you to join us.

Piña colada: You'd rather be at the beach or gettin' caught in the rain.

A bottle of premium liquor: You routinely spend half of your paycheque on bottle service at pretentious nightclubs in the hopes of luring drunken party-goers into your booth.

Tequila: TEQUILA!

Read more of Jessica Napier's columns at metronews.ca/shesays

Cartoon

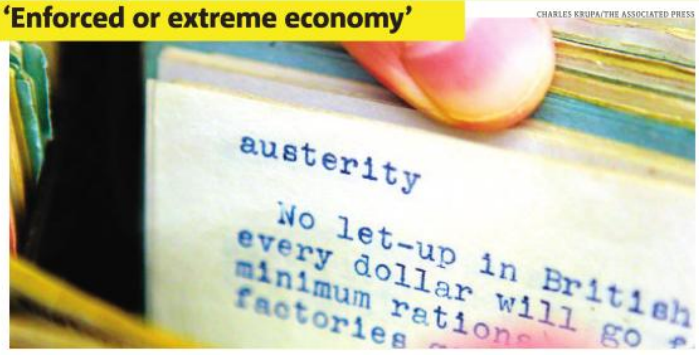
MICHAEL DE ADDER

Crisis spawns top word

Worth mentioning

'Enforced or extreme economy'

CHARLES KRUPA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



As Greece faced a debt crisis, the government passed a series of strict austerity measures, including tax hikes and public-sector pay cuts.

The move provoked a rush to online dictionaries from those searching for a definition.

Austerity, the 14th-century noun defined as "the quality or state of being austere" and "enforced or extreme economy," set off enough searches that Merriam-Webster named it as its Word Of The Year for 2010, the dictionary's editors announced yesterday.

John Morse, president and publisher of the Springfield, Mass.-based dictionary, said "austerity" saw more than 250,000 searches on the dictionary's free online tool and came with more coverage of the debt crisis.

Runners-up announced yesterday included "pragmatic," "moratorium," "socialism," and "bigot" — the last word resulted from public uses by former British prime minister Gordon Brown, former CNN host Rick Sanchez and former NPR senior analyst Juan Williams.

Also making the top-10 list was the word "doppelganger," while others on this year's list included "shellacking," "ebullient," "dissident," and "furtive."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Metro Minute with winter solstice

Today is officially the shortest day of the year, which we're sure means a great deal to you as you sit there watching the night sky infiltrate your office window at 4:30 p.m.

But, hey! Did you know North America also experienced a lunar eclipse early this morning? That makes it the first time a blood red moon will coincide with the winter solstice in almost 400 years. Eerie. Which also means the last group of winter-weary folks who got a chance to experience this double whammy was still getting banished to the colonies for heresy.

Technically, we're already in the colonies. So curse the frigid temperatures to your heart's content.

JORDANA DIVON

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

▶ To celebrate tonight's winter solstice en masse, head to Kensington Market for the Community Lantern Parade. The procession begins at 6:30 p.m. and will meet at the corner of Oxford and Augusta.

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Can you please move your shoulder? The person behind you is trying to read.

metro
News worth sharing.

JEFF MCINTOSH/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶Federal Finance Minister Jim Flaherty goes over his notes yesterday before a meeting in Kananaskis, Alta., with his provincial and territorial counterparts to discuss pensions.

Not the right time to expand CPP: Flaherty

Ontario finance minister calls Flaherty's decision to take CPP expansion off the table a mistake

Federal Finance Minister Jim Flaherty is not ruling out a revamp to the Canada Pension Plan in the future, but says now is not the time to be contemplating major changes.

"What we've always said is we are prepared federally to work on improvements to the Canada Pension Plan as part of our review process, but not implementing anything right now," Flaherty said yesterday before the start of a meeting with his provincial and territorial counterparts in Kananaskis, Alta.

"Right now is probably not a good time to impose any more burdens on employers in Canada because the economic recovery is fragile. We want to continue to create jobs in Canada, so we have to be cautious and moderate in what we do, and it needs more work in any event."

"This argument that a recession is no time to make major policy change is a red herring."
GIL MCGOWAN, ALBERTA FEDERATION OF LABOUR PRESIDENT

Any debate about changes to the CPP are "academic" since there is no consensus among provinces, he said.

Quebec Finance Minister Raymond Bachand agrees with Flaherty that the time isn't right to expand the CPP now, but that doesn't necessarily mean never.

"You make these decisions once a generation. You can take another nine months to study it closely," said Bachand.

Gil McGowan, president of the Alberta Federation of Labour, said he doesn't buy the idea that improvements to the CPP have to wait until the economy improves. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Maple Leaf to revamp its board

Maple Leaf Foods Inc. has begun a process to revamp its board of directors as the restructuring meat processor faces calls for reforms following the departure of a former major investor.

The Toronto-based meat and bakery company said yesterday a committee of its board is soliciting shareholder input as it searches for new director candidates.

"We are looking forward to engaging with our shareholders, and making changes that further strengthen our ability to provide oversight to ensure this company maximizes sustainable return to shareholder," committee chairman James Hankinson said in a statement.

At least one shareholder — activist hedge fund West Face Capital Inc. — has complained that the Maple Leaf board is too big and alleges some of the directors are too closely involved on a personal level with the McCain family, which has control through special voting rights.

West Face acquired a 10 per cent stake from the Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan Board in August. The OTPPB, which had been one of Maple Leaf's major shareholders in partnership with the McCains, later withdrew its two representatives from Maple Leaf and sold its remaining 25 per cent stake in November for $362.4 million, a 17 per cent discount to the market price.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Market loses steam ahead of quieter week

- Low trading volumes expected ahead of the holidays
- Analyst says TSX should stay relatively strong

The Toronto stock market turned negative late in the session yesterday as a weak performance by the financial sector overshadowed strength in energy and gold stocks.

Shares in Bank of Montreal fell 2.4 per cent, or $1.40, to $56.60 following Friday's announcement that it is buying Wisconsin-based bank Marshall & Ilsley Corp. in a deal worth $4.1 billion US. That has prompted Moody's Investor Services to launch a review of BMO for a possible downgrade.

Shares in TD Bank shed value after reports surfaced that it was looking to buy lender Chrysler Financial. Its stock fell 2.3 per cent or $1.68 to $70.52.

Market moment

PRICES AS OF 5 P.M. YESTERDAY

TSX	Dollar
– 8.18 (13,193.28)	– 0.35¢ ($98.39¢ US)
Oil	**Natural gas**
+ 79¢ US ($88.81 US)	1,000 cu ft $4.129 (+ 17.1¢)
	Gold contracts $1,386.10 (+ $6.90)

Gold and energy stocks were among the biggest gainers on the TSX as global gold and oil prices increased.

Energy equities are likely catching up to oil prices that have been moving higher lately and could be one of the largest areas of growth on the market over the next several months, said John Johnston, chief strategist at The Harbour Group.

"People are making bets that energy is going to play catch-up after a lengthy period of disappointing performance in light of what's been happening with oil prices," he said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Coens on True Grit: 'It's not a western'

Joel and Ethan Coen subvert expectations again with their latest But the directorial duo insist the western isn't like most westerns How could it be, coming from them?

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GETTY IMAGES

▶ Director Ethan Coen, actor Jeff Bridges and director Joel Coen attend the premiere of True Grit in New York City.

In discussing their new film, True Grit, Joel and Ethan Coen are clear about one thing: They have zero interest in talking about the 1969 John Wayne film that was also based on Charles Portis' novel, about a tough 14-year-old girl who enlists a grizzled U.S. marshal and a Texas ranger to track down her father's killer.

"I don't think any of us thought about much of anything in this with reference to the first movie," Ethan says. "We had seen the movie when it came out, but we were kids then."

Instead, the brothers looked to Portis' 1968 book, which focused more on young Mattie Ross (played by newcomer Hailee Steinfeld) than the first film adaptation.

And while the Coen brothers' eclectic career has covered a slew of genres, they've never done a traditional western before — and they'd argue that they still haven't.

"I don't think we thought about it as a genre movie so much," Ethan says. "It is a western inarguably — you know, there are guys with six-guns on horses. But it's not a western in that sense, and really we were thinking about the story, we were thinking about the novel more than doing a western, per se."

To find the right teenager to go toe-to-toe with Jeff Bridges' marshal and Matt Damon's ranger, they set out on a nationwide search — not that they really needed to.

"If we'd only known. Hailee's from Thousand Oaks," Ethan says with a laugh. "We looked all over the country. There were two casting people that spent basically 18 months going everywhere, just everywhere, seeing thousands of girls — and they could have stayed in L.A."

According to the Coens, what made Steinfeld stand out was her ability to wrap her mouth around the script's peculiar dialogue.

"Ninety-nine-point-nine percent of the hundreds or thousands of girls who read for this part washed out at the level of not being able to do the language, and that was something which was never an issue with Hailee," Joel says.

"Right from the beginning it was clear that she was completely comfortable with the language."

Though a distinct dialogue style might seem like a hallmark of the Coen brothers, much of the flowery lines of True Grit actually came from the source material.

"The kind of formality of it and the floweriness of it is just from the book," says Ethan. "That was the first thing Jeff mentioned, noticed and liked — the kind of foreign-sounding nature of the dialogue and the lack of contractions. We just lifted it from the book."

The Coen brothers, on location

There was one area where the Coen brothers didn't stay faithful to Charles Portis' novel. While the action in True Grit takes place in Arkansas and Oklahoma, the brothers filmed in New Mexico — partly for the weather and partly because of audience expectations, they admit.

"That's one thing that's not faithful to the novel," Ethan says. "I mean, the landscape is a total cheat. But you know, we kind of thought people will think it's a western, and some things you just can't mess with. People want that."

Joel agrees: "The whole pictorial idea of the movie would have been much different in a place like Arkansas," he says.

And there was the weather to consider. "We knew we wanted to have snow in the movie," Joel says.

"The trick was snow but not too much snow, and we weren't sure we were reliably going to get any snow at that time of year in Arkansas," Joel says.

2 scene

Scene in brief

What Betty White did in 2010 doesn't usually happen. An 88-year-old actress with more than six decades in Hollywood suddenly became the object of adulation of the masses, which campaigned for her to host Saturday Night Live, boosting the show's ratings and helping her set ratings records for her own show.

After a year remarkable for a star of any age, White has been voted the Entertainer of the Year by members of The Associated Press.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Teen star Hailee Steinfeld shows new 'Grit' in debut role with Coens, Bridges, Damon. Learn how to scan on page 3.

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Town brings the heat

The Town
Genre: Thriller
Director: Ben Affleck
Stars: Ben Affleck, Rebecca Hall and Jon Hamm
●●●●

No sophomore slump for Ben Affleck.

The actor turned director follows his acclaimed helming debut Gone Baby Gone with quality pulp about the Charlestown neighbourhood of his Boston hometown, where bank robbers thrive.

Affleck is Doug MacRay, leader of a brazen band of heisters who members include loose-cannon pal James (Jeremy Renner), a guy with both pluses and minuses.

They know how to knock off a bank, wearing Halloween masks for combo cover and shock value, but how do they storm the fortress of the heart? Doug gets distracted by the charms of Claire (Rebecca Hall), who begins as a hostage but becomes a very interested party.

Also hot in the hunt is FBI flatfoot Adam Frawley (Jon Hamm) who is tired of Charlestown's rep as America's favourite hold-up hood.

The Town is richly textured picture of strong characters and brisk action, the latter including what may be the year's best car chase.

Extras include director's commentary, extended cut, and a featurette called Ben's Boston, where Affleck reveals the reality behind his tale. ● PETER HOWELL

A blurry sequel

Wall Street: Money Never Sleeps
Genre: Drama
Director: Oliver Stone
Stars: Shia LaBeouf, Michael Douglas and Carey Mulligan
●●●

In this belated sequel to the epochal 1980s drama, greed is no longer good — and it's not much fun, either.

Oliver Stone's film is as firmly in tune with the headlines as his original Wall Street was 23 years ago. The first film examined the capitalistic excesses of the 1980s, where firms were smashed for sport as much as for profit. The sequel takes place during the global economic meltdown of the fall of 2008.

The difference between now and then is that Stone seems far less certain about what he wants to say, and he's a lot less amusing in how he says it. The clearly defined biblical contest of the first film has been replaced by a blurry battle of pygmies.

Michael Douglas' rapacious trader Gordon Gekko is back, emerging from eight years in prison for financial crimes committed in the first film. He's a lonely man, whose daughter Winnie (Carey Mulligan) refuses to see him, but he's not a broken one.

He's busily hustling his memoirs, and looking to score big dough again, thanks in part to the hustle of Shia LaBeouf's Jake Moore, a young corporate trader ripe for the taking. Problem: Jake is involved with Winnie.

LaBeouf is the movie's dramatic centre. At 24, he's one of America's best young actors, especially when he gets the right role, as he has here. The story often flags, but he never does.

Extras include a director's commentary, a conversation with Stone and his cast, plus featurettes about the real Wall Street.
● PETER HOWELL

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Party for two: Twain engaged

▶ Shania Twain

Country singer has TV show, Why Not? With Shania Twain, in the works for Oprah Winfrey's OWN network

Shania Twain has found love again.

The Timmins, Ont., native is planning to marry Swiss businessman Frederic Thiebaud, according to a report in US Weekly.

A Twain representative tells the magazine the 45-year-old country superstar became engaged about two months ago.

Thiebaud is the ex-husband of Twain's former friend Marie-Anne Thiebaud — the woman who allegedly came between Twain and her first husband, Robert (Mutt) Lange. Twain and Lange finalized their divorce earlier this year.

Twain wrote about her romance with Thiebaud in a blog entry on her website last August. "A dear friend and true gentleman by the name of Fred, has been the most constant companion of support for both Eja and me, and having gone through the suffering of his family splitting apart at the same time under the same extreme circumstances, he understood me better than anyone," she wrote. "We've become stronger and closer through it all, as have our children Eja and (Thiebaud's daughter) Johanna." THE CANADIAN PRESS

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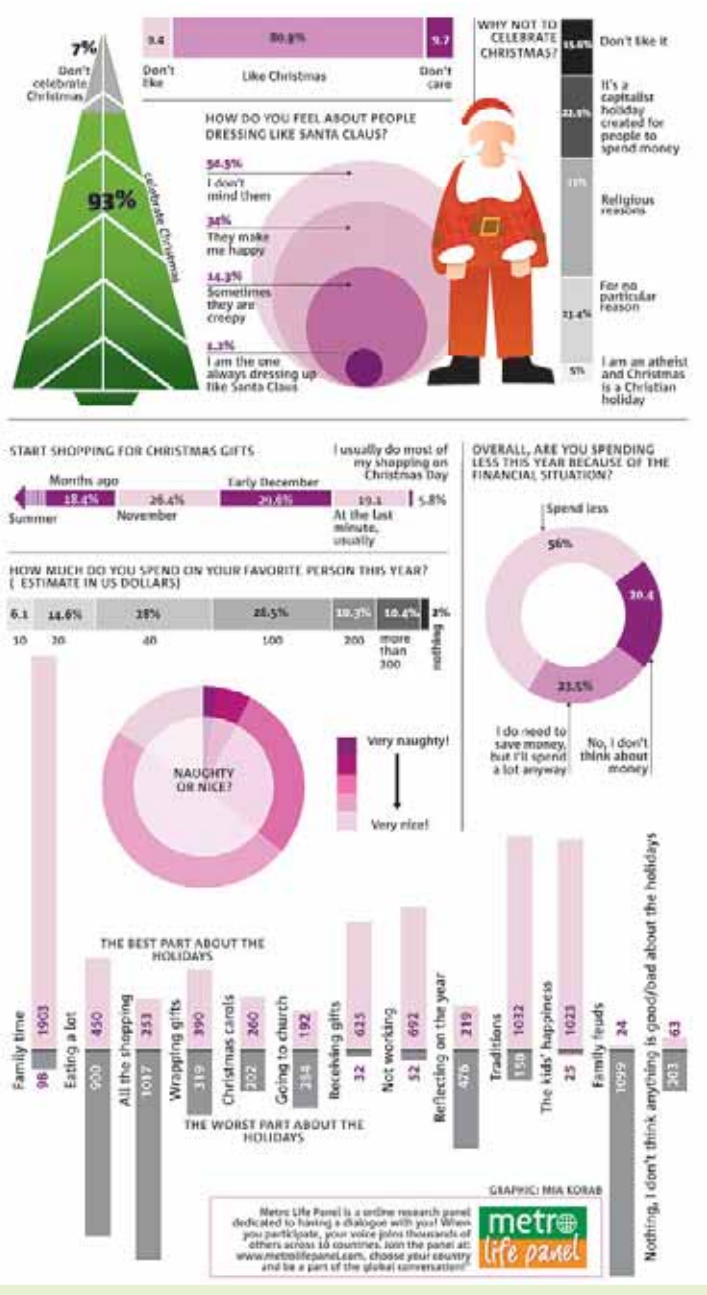
The 2010 Christmas reader poll results

We asked thousands of Metro readers how they felt about the holidays See who's been naughty or nice


7%
Don't celebrate Christmas
93%
Celebrate Christmas
Don't like
Like Christmas
Don't care
HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT PEOPLE DRESSING LIKE SANTA CLAUS?
50.5% I don't mind them
34% They make me happy
14.3% Sometimes they are creepy
1.2% I am the one always dressing up like Santa Claus
WHY NOT TO CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS?
Don't like it
It's a capitalist holiday created for people to spend money
Religious reasons
For no particular reason
I am an atheist and Christmas is a Christian holiday
START SHOPPING FOR CHRISTMAS GIFTS
Months ago
Summer
November
Early December
At the last minute, usually
I usually do most of my shopping on Christmas Day
HOW MUCH DO YOU SPEND ON YOUR FAVORITE PERSON THIS YEAR? (ESTIMATE IN US DOLLARS)
10
20
40
100
200
more than 300
nothing
OVERALL, ARE YOU SPENDING LESS THIS YEAR BECAUSE OF THE FINANCIAL SITUATION?
Spend less
56%
I do need to save money, but I'll spend a lot anyway
No, I don't think about money
NAUGHTY OR NICE?
Very naughty!
Very nice!
THE BEST PART ABOUT THE HOLIDAYS
Family time
Eating a lot
All the shopping
Wrapping gifts
Christmas carols
Going to church
Receiving gifts
Not working
Reflecting on the year
Traditions
The kids' happiness
Family feuds
Nothing, I don't think anything is good/bad about the holidays
THE WORST PART ABOUT THE HOLIDAYS
GRAPHIC: MIA KORAB
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Paris revs up motorcycling team

PAUL WHITE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Paris Hilton will now be hanging with bikers.

The hotel chain heiress who draws photographers wherever she goes will have her own team on the world motorcycling championship circuit.

The SupermartXe VIP by Paris Hilton team was unveiled by her in Madrid. It will compete in the 125cc category from 2011 to 2013. Hilton has agreed to attend at least five races next season.

"I can't believe I have my own racing team! So cool! :)" Hilton posted on Twitter while at the launch.

Hilton wore a low-cut, pink and white, rhinestone-studded racing suit. Team riders Sergio Gadea and Maverick Vinales are expected to wear more reserved outfits.

The team colours are pink, white and blue.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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**Fuel consumption ratings based on Natural Resources Canada's 2010 Fuel Consumption Guide. Your actual fuel consumption may vary. ††The 2011 GMC Acadia received a 5-Star Overall Rating Score for Safety. US Government 5-Star Safety ratings are part of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHSTA's) New Car Assessment Program (www.SaferCar.gov). ***Vehicle's projected resale value is specific to the 2011 model year. For more information, visit Kelley Blue Book's kbb.com. Kelley Blue Book is a registered trademark of Kelley Blue Book Co., Inc. ††GMC Terrain SLT-2, MSRP with freight, PDI & fees $35,994. Dealers are free to set individual prices. ♥Offered by GMCL until 01/17/11 on eligible purchase financing of a 2010/2011 Buick/Cadillac/Chevrolet/GMC vehicle. OAC by TD Financing Services (fixed rate special only) or Ally Credit. Interest applies for entire financing term and accrues on unpaid amounts during deferral period. Financing term includes 2 month extension when financing through TDFS. Offer not available to Quebec residents and may not be combined with certain other consumer incentives. GMCL, Ally Credit or TD Financing Services may modify, extend or terminate this offer in whole or in part at any time without notice. Conditions and limitations apply. See dealer for details. ~Smart Purchase™ financing is available on approved credit through Ally Credit. Eligible vehicles: 2010/2011 MY new or demonstrator Chevrolet/Buick/GMC/Cadillac. Dealer order (2011MY only) or trade may be required. Limited quantities of certain 2010 models. Applies only to qualified retail customers in Canada. Payments amortized over a term of up to 84 months. At months 33–57, 47-49 or 69-81 customers may: (i) exercise option to return vehicle for sale to Ally Credit if applicable conditions met, including payment of $199 disposal fee and any excess wear/km charges; (ii) continue at initial payment amount for remainder of term; or (iii) finance remaining balance at then current rate. Customer responsible for insurance, maintenance and repairs. Excess wear and use charges apply if vehicle returned. Excess use charges apply if vehicle returned to lessor with more than 20,000 km per year. Lessee responsible for any damage to vehicle in excess of normal wear and use. Offer ends January 17, 2011. Dealer may lease for less. Example: $10,000 at 2.9%/1.9% APR, monthly payment is $223.90/$216.52 for 48 months. Cost of borrowing is $803.20/$392.96, total obligation is $10,803.20/$10,392.96. Down payment and/or trade may be required. Monthly payment and cost of borrowing will vary depending on amount borrowed and down payment/trade. ♦"2-Freight & PDI ($1,450/$1,450), registration, air and tire levies and GMC fees are included. Insurance, licence, PPSA, dealer fees and applicable taxes are not included. Offers apply as indicated to 2011 new or demonstrator models of the vehicle equipped as described. Offers apply to qualified retail customers in the Ontario Pontiac Buick GMC Dealer Marketing Association area only and may not be combined with certain other consumer incentives. 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The Santa Clause 3: The Escape Clause
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CBC

Gaga is 'furious and devastated'

Singer stopped by the snow in France

Lady Gaga isn't having the best time in France. The singer returned to Paris to perform make-up dates for October shows that had been cancelled, only to get stopped by the weather, according to Popeater. Because of snow, authorities wouldn't let her trucks into the city. Sunday night's show was rescheduled for tonight.

"All 28 of my trucks for the Monsterball were detained by the French government going on over 26 [hours]," Gaga posted to Twitter. "[Two] of my employees were arrested trying to get into Paris so we could perform. I am furious and devastated. It's unfair to my fans and to me." METRO

JEMAL COUNTESS/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Lady Gaga

Celebrity tweets

Neil Patrick Harris [@ActuallyNPH] My favorite holiday song: 12 Days of Christmas, by the Muppets. Why: Beaker singing 'Mee Mee Mee Mee Mee Mee!' slays me

Stephen Colbert [@StephenAtHome] I'm on break! And the fact that I'm tweeting about it may be the first sign of my Twitter addiction

Amy Winehouse [@amyjademermaid] can't find me bleedin notebooks — theyve done a runsies

Kelly Osbourne [@MissKellyO] Just got back from seeing Narnia why did prince Caspian go from being Spanish to English? METRO

Talking points

Neverland Ranch to become a school?

PERFORMING ARTS. The future of Michael Jackson's famed Neverland Ranch is still in question, but the company that owns it, Colony Capital, is reportedly turning it into a performing arts school named after the late singer, according to TMZ.

The company reportedly wants to model the school after New York's Juilliard.

"It's an interesting idea," a rep for Jackson's estate says. "And we'd be open to it." METRO

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Taylor Swift

Did Gwyneth Paltrow introduce Jake and Taylor?

Reports came out recently that Jake Gyllenhaal and new girlfriend Taylor Swift had been introduced during a dinner at Gwyneth Paltrow and Chris Martin's London home, but Paltrow is completely caught off-guard by the story.

"Where is this coming from?" she asks USA Today when asked if the stories are true.

"Well, I'm scared to say. It's so weird, I wonder how people find out these things. It was a while ago, so I don't know why it would come out today." METRO

Lutfi allegedly stalking Lindsay

Sam Lutfi has allegedly been stalking Lindsay Lohan, sending her menacing text messages as well as threatening her mom, Dina Lohan, through texts, according to TMZ. The situation has gotten so bad that Lohan's camp has even contacted the FBI to investigate.

Lutfi made the news for being involved with Britney Spears during her 2008 breakdown. METRO

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ISTOCK PHOTO

▶ Experts suggest that one reason why women don't get mammograms more often is that they are confused about the procedure.

◗ Statistics in Canada and the U.S. suggest women should be going in for free mammograms more often ◗ Experts looking at why they choose not to ◗ Read on for why you should get one

CELIA MILNE
LIFE@METRONEWS.CA

Women are not going for "free" mammograms as often as they should – and could – be.

A new study in the U.S. has found only 50 to 60 per cent of women who should be going for regular mammography tests actually do.

And cost certainly is not the issue: All of the 1.5 million women in the study had health insurance, and here in Canada, it's covered.

Mammography as recommended "can reduce your risk of dying from breast cancer," says Dr. Gillian Bromfield, senior manager of cancer control policy at the Canadian Cancer Society.

The Society recommends all women between the ages of 50 and 69 get regular mammograms once every two years.

ISTOCK PHOTO

▶ By quitting smoking, you drastically cut your risk of getting cancer.

So how does Canada compare with the U.S?

When surveyed, 72 per cent of Canadian women in this age group say they are getting them done.

"That is pretty good," says Bromfield, though she added, "It might not be quite that high. Women are more likely to give the expected answer, or they don't realize it's been more than a couple of years since their last mammogram."

Ideally, she says, all women should follow the recommendations.

If you are in your 40s, it is recommended that you talk to your doctor about your benefits and risks of mammography.

Statistics

Breast cancer by numbers

- Number of women in Canada expected to develop breast cancer this year: 23,200
- Number of men in Canada expected to develop breast cancer this year: 180
- Percentage of women with breast cancer who survive more than five years: 87
- Number of deaths from breast cancer expected this year: 5,300

"It is proven to save lives. That's an important message. There's a lot of misunderstanding about that."
DR. GILLIAN BROMFIELD, CANADIAN CANCER SOCIETY

If you decide to get mammography, there is some evidence you should get it done annually, says Bromfield.

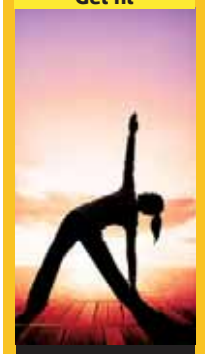
In any age group, if a doctor refers you for a mammogram because of symptoms or a family history, the public health system covers the cost.

"It is proven to save lives. That's an important message. There's a lot of misunderstanding about that," says Bromfield.

In the U.S. study, authors said that reasons for the lower than expected rates might be fear of the procedure and confusion about guidelines.

3 life

Get fit



There are some things you can do to minimize your risk of developing breast cancer. Of course, some factors you cannot change, such as your age, your family history, and your reproductive history. Here are factors you can do something about:

- Lost excess weight
- Quit smoking
- Exercise regularly
- Limit your alcohol intake
- Breastfeed your baby
- Avoid unnecessary exposure to chemicals.

CELIA MILNE

Hospital report: progress in reducing death rates, some surgeries unneeded

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Ultimate Christmas workout

Hey fatty. Yeah you, Mr. Claus. If you are visiting family and unable to get to the gym over the festive period, make sure you still get out of the house for regular walk or runs and try including the following full-body workout.

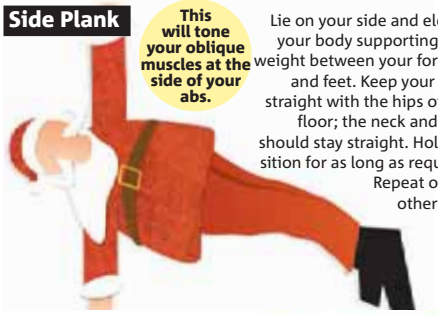
Warm up by walking or jogging on the spot and then perform each exercise for 30 seconds in a circuit style format for three to five times depending upon your fitness levels with a two minute rest between each circuit. Make sure you stretch afterward to help your recovery.

TEXT: MATT ROBERTS
PERSONAL TRAINER TO THE STARS

Press Ups

Set up on a mat face down with your hands in line with your shoulders and your feet hip-width apart on your toes. Keeping the hips elevated and bracing the abdomen, slowly lower your body ensuring that the elbows are kept tucked in. Once you have reached your maximum range of motion drive back up to starting position with a faster tempo.

Side Plank



Lie on your side and elevate your body supporting your weight between your forearm and feet. Keep your body straight with the hips off the floor; the neck and back should stay straight. Hold position for as long as required. Repeat on the other side.

Plank

Lie face down with your elbows on the ground; elevate your body up, keeping your weight distributed between your forearms and feet. Your elbows should be bent at a 90-degree angle.

Keep your back straight with the hips raised off the floor. Squeeze the torso tight ensuring the body is parallel to the floor. Hold this position for as long as required.

Dead Bugs

Lie with your back on the floor and position yourself with legs bent at the hips and knees. The movement involves opposite motion—keep one leg bent while the opposite leg is extended. Alternate between both sides.

Sumo Squat

Keep your head up and your back straight with your feet about 30 inches apart. Point your toes and knees a little outwards. Squat until your upper thighs are parallel to the floor. Slowly return to the starting position

Walking Lunge

Step forward and bend the front and back legs to ninety degrees, shift your weight forward maintaining a straight back and step through with the other leg again bending the front and back knees to ninety degrees. Continue this moving walking motion moving the lunge forward for the set number of repetitions.

ILLUSTRATIONS: MIA KORAB

MY 4 REASONS:

Lip gloss.
I'm not too stubborn to ask for directions.
I am the go-to shoulder to cry on.
I am only limited by my imagination.

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Fight the holiday hangover

Our experts tell you how to enjoy overindulging while remaining clean and clear ◗ Step one is to enjoy the party, with some preperation beforehand ◗ And then prepare to detox and keep fit for the rest of the break

Meet the experts, here to help like healthy, fitness-obsessed elves.
CL and JB : Carlos Leon and Jeff Bell, founders of the Belleon training program
RB: Ramona Braganza, celebrity fitness trainer
TA: Tracy Anderson, celebrity fitness trainer
CA: Christina Agnew, nutritionist and founder of rawfairies.com
MK: Michele Kingston, nutritionist

PARTY TIME

- Having a nap before going out is a good slimming tip — we tend to eat more when we're tired. **CA**
- Alternate each alcoholic drink with a glass of mineral water topped with fresh lime to limit your alcoholic intake and stay hydrated. **CA**
- Munch on raw vegetable crudités but go easy on the dips, where the calories hide. Chew your food thoroughly and slowly to avoid overeating. **CA**
- To drop a size in record time, can be done simply by eating clean foods, whole foods, raw and organic foods, and by creating a work-out that gives you maximum results in the shortest amount of time. Be sure to find out what whole body exercises will move you toward your goal. The other thing is to just get up and do it! **CL & JB**

FIGHT THE FLU

- Boost your immune system by eating fruit and vegetables rich in vitamin C and bioflavonoids such as berries, peppers and guava. **MK**
- Eat garlic and onions for their antibacterial and antiseptic properties. **MK**

- Exercise works your cardiovascular and builds your immune system. It strengthens and helps to fight off bacteria and infection easier. **CL & JB**
- Avoid foods containing sugar and refined carbohydrates as they weaken the immune system. **MK**

FLICKR CC JCOLMAN

KEEP FIT

- A slow walk will aid digestion, so get up and go for a stroll after lunch. **RB**
- Stretch your brain in a game of Scrabble or watch a fun Christmas film. If you want a nap after dinner sleep in an upright chair rather than lying flat as this could cause indigestion. **MK**
- To keep your energy up, avoid starchy, sugary foods or keep them to a minimum. **CL & JB**

DETOXING

- Sip dandelion root tea throughout the day and stay away from coffee and black tea, as these cause dehydration. **MK**
- Drink a mug of fennel tea before going out. It's an appetite suppressant. **RB**
- If you grab a square of chocolate (sugar), grab a handful of nuts (protein) to fill you up and balance blood sugar. **MK**

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FOR THE LOVE OF BIKES

Names: Shannon, 25, and Andy, 38

Current city: Toronto

Together since: 2009

Their story:

▶ Shannon and Andy

"Andy and I (Shannon) met when I started a new job at a medical office — he was the Purolator guy...

One day, Andy came into the office with a package I was expecting — I had ordered something from a motorcycle shop.

Being a rider himself, he recognized the name of the store and was very curious about the contents. Having discovered our joint passion for motorcycles, our conversations became more frequent.

Andy would even stop into the office empty–handed just for a quick chat. About two years later, we had our first date — on a motorcycle, of course! We went for a beautiful summer ride and rode by the waterfront in Port Perry, Ont.

It was there—36 minutes into our first date — that I knew he was "the one". I asked him to marry me. He said yes and kept me waiting (im)patiently for him to surprise me with a proper proposal. Andy finally proposed in January 2010, at the same place in Port Perry where I had asked him to marry me.

After some drama, a bit of stress and a wedding venue cancellation, we finally tied the knot in September 2010 in Toronto."

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WHEN TASTE BUDS DON'T MATCH WITH YOUR LOVER

Smug Marrieds

ANGELA PACIENZA & DEREK CHEZZI

2FORCOUPLES.COM

TWITTER: @SMUGMARRIEDS

I'm an adventurous foodie, but my partner's taste buds are limited to boiled chicken and root veggies, and she refuses to experiment. I'm worried my flavour centres are going to turn as bland as the food on her plate. What can I do?

Derek says...

She sounds boring. I feel for you.

But in the event that you are actually in love and in this for the long haul, try finding restaurants where you can order an interesting item from the menu, while she eats a bowl buttered pasta or a piece of bread.

Once in a while, sneak away for a dinner safari with like-minded friends. If you teach her how to cook, she might be willing to experiment and expand her palate. Good luck.

Angela says ...

We have a friend who doesn't have an adventurous wish bone in him.

When his wife craves sushi, he tags along, and drinks a beer while she noshes on her tuna rolls. Then they go get him a burger and fries. Personally, I could never survive that kind of relationship — trying new foods is fun to do together — but hey, if it works for you then who am I to judge?

This is one of those situations where you will both need to learn how to compromise.

Take turns giving in to each other's food choices. I suspect after a while, she'll come around. Because who can resist a tasty chicken tikka masala?

FLICKR: THE CULINARY GEEK

▶ Chicken tikka masala?

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Satay the calories out of hors d'oeuvres

This holiday, skip the fat & sodium in favour of these healthy choices

ROSE REISMAN
LIFE@METRONEWS.CA

Beef Hoisin Meatballs

These are perfect hors d'oeuvre for a dinner party. Meatballs are usually made from regular ground meat, which has three times the fat and calories of extra-lean.

My version compensates for the fat with a hoisin sauce. The red currant jelly adds a tart-sweet flavour and gives the sauce the thickness it requires.

Ingredients:

- 8 oz extra-lean ground beef
- 3 tbsp dry breadcrumbs
- 2 tbsp hoisin sauce
- 1 tsp crushed garlic
- 1 egg
- 2 tbsp minced green onion
- 1/3 cup hoisin sauce
- 1/3 cup red currant jelly
- 1 tsp crushed garlic
- ½ tsp minced fresh ginger
- 2 tbsp water
- tbsp chopped green onion
- 2 tbsp chopped fresh cilantro or parsley

Preparation:

1. For the meatballs, combine the beef, breadcrumbs, hoisin sauce, garlic, egg and onion. Form into 20 to 24 small meatballs about 1 inch in diameter.
2. Spray a large non-stick skillet with cooking oil and add the meatballs. Cook over medium-high heat for 3 minutes, turning until browned on all sides.
3. For the sauce, combine the hoisin sauce, jelly, garlic, ginger and water in a small bowl.
4. Add to the meatballs and stir well. Cover and simmer on low heat for 10 minutes. Serve garnished with the green onions and cilantro.

Per serving: Calories 150 • Protein 8.1 g • Carbohydrates 19.2 g • fibre 0.6 g • Total fat 4.2 g • Saturated fat 1.5 g • Cholesterol 52 mg • Sodium 321 mg • prep time 15 minutes • cook time 13 minutes

Shrimp Skewers with Hoisin-Apricot Sauce

The combination of shrimp, hoisin and apricot flavours is wonderful. This would also be delicious with scallops or thin strips of boneless chicken breast.

Ingredients:

- 16 medium shrimp (about 12 oz), peeled and deveined
- 16 wooden skewers (about 6 inches long)
- 1/4 cup apricot jam
- 1 tbsp oyster sauce
- 3 tbsp hoisin sauce
- 3 tbsp chopped fresh basil

Preparation:

1. Threat shrimp on skewers.
2. Combine the apricot jam, oyster and hoisin sauce in a small bowl. Set aside half of the sauce. Brush the other half over the shrimp.
3. In a grill pan or a skillet lightly coated with cooking spray, sauté the shrimp, just until they are no longer pink, about 5 minutes. Serve with the remaining sauce and garnish with basil.

Per serving (1 skewer): Calories 35 • Protein 4 g • Carbohydrates 5 g • fibre 0.1 g • Total fat 0.3 g • Saturated fat 0.1 g • Cholesterol 32 mg • Sodium 94 mg • prep time 15 minutes • cook time 5 minutes

Chicken satays with peanut coconut sauce

These satays can be served as an appetizer or a main course. Use natural peanut butter to avoid trans fats and sugar. Light coconut milk is also available.

Ingredients:

- 12 oz skinless boneless chicken breasts (about 3 breasts)
- 18 wooden skewers (about 6 inches long)

Sauce

- 1/4 cup light coconut milk
- 2 tbsp natural peanut butter
- 2 tsp low-sodium soy sauce
- 2 tsp sesame oil
- 2 tsp rice vinegar
- 1 tsp honey
- 1 tsp finely chopped garlic
- 1/2 tsp finely chopped ginger
- 1/2 tsp hot chili sauce

Garnish

- 3 tsbp chopped cilantro; 1 tsp sesame seeds

Preparation:

1. Cut the chicken into strips about 4 inches long and 2 inches wide. Thread the strips of chicken onto the skewers.
2. In a bowl whisk coconut milk, peanut butter, soy sauce, sesame oil, rice vinegar, honey, garlic, ginger and chili sauce. Reserve half of the sauce; brush the other half over the chicken.
3. In a nonstick skillet cook the chicken for 5 minutes or just until no longer pink. Serve with the remaining sauce and garnish with cilantro and sesame seeds.

Per serving (1 skewer): Calories 42 • Protein 4 g • Carbohydrates 1 g • fibre 0.1 g • Total fat 2.2 g • Saturated fat 0.3 g • Cholesterol 10 mg • Sodium 34 mg • prep time 15 minutes • cook time 5 minutes

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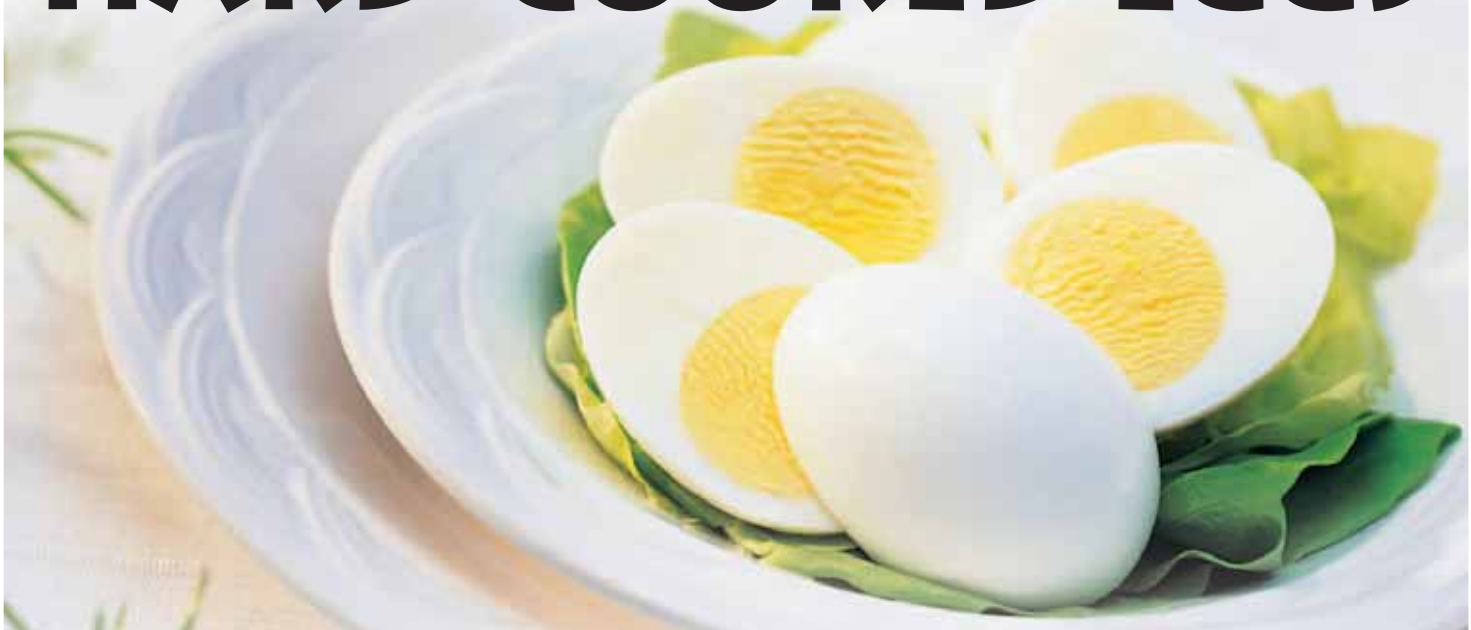

EASY

1. Place eggs in a single layer in saucepan
2. Cover eggs with water
3. Cover saucepan and bring to a boil
4. Remove from heat, let stand for 18-23 minutes
5. Run cold water over eggs until cooled

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Holiday alternatives

LIQUIDASSETS@EASTLINK.CA

After taking a straw poll of friends, family and strangers on the Internet, it looks like many of you may not be having turkey or ham for dinner on Christmas day.

This rebellion against tradition is cool because it means that there will be lots of different bottles on holiday tables this season.

Boiled lobster is high on the list of alternative mains (especially in Atlantic Canada).

A crisp sauvignon blanc from New Zealand or bright, fruit-forward chardonnay from the New World would be an ideal match.

If you're going for a Charles Dickens vibe, goose could be on the menu.

Surprisingly adaptable, it's a great partner for a red French Bordeaux, a Spanish Tempranillo or a chewy Aussie shiraz.

Since I love roast beef, it's a guarantee the Rockwells will serve it at least once before the year ends.

Though also quite open to liquid partners, a spicy malbec from Argentina or a California zinfandel would make a perfect union.

Another choice is a New World cabernet with Errazuriz's 2008 Max Reserva Cabernet Sauvignon ($17.95 - $18.99) from Chile, which offers plenty of dense black currant fruit, rich tannins and a lingering dark chocolate finish.

Have a safe and happy holiday!

Prices reflect the range across the country. Some products may not be available in all provinces.

Spicy apple scones

THE CANADIAN PRESS/ FOODLAND ONTARIO

Make up a batch or two of these moist, spicy scones for holiday guests. They are delicious served with honey, cream cheese or a slather of creamy maple butter along with a mug of hot cider.

Preparation:

1. In a large bowl, combine flour, sugar, baking powder, cinnamon and salt. Cut in butter with pastry blender or 2 knives until mixture is crumbly. Stir in apples and walnuts.
2. In a small bowl, using a fork, stir sour cream and egg until well mixed. Stir into flour mixture to form smooth, soft dough. Turn out onto lightly floured surface; knead 8 times. Shape into 23-cm (9-inch) circle.
3. **Topping**: In cup, mix sugar with cinnamon; sprinkle evenly on top. Cut into 12 equal wedges. Arrange wedges 2.5 cm (1 inch) apart on parchment paper-lined or lightly greased baking sheet.
4. Bake in a 200 C (400 F) oven for 20 to 25 minutes or until puffed and golden brown.

Serve warm. The recipe makes 12 spicy apple scones.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ingredients:

- 500 ml (2 cups) all-purpose flour
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) granulated sugar
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) baking powder
- 5 ml (1 tsp) cinnamon
- 1 ml (1/4 tsp) salt
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) cold butter, cut into pieces
- 550 ml (2 1/4 cups) diced apples, peeled if desired (3 medium McIntosh or Cortland apples)
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) chopped walnuts
- 175 ml (3/4 cup) sour cream
- 1 egg

Topping

- 15 ml (1 tbsp) granulated sugar
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) cinnamon

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Fun and Frugal

LESLEY SCORGIE
MONEY@METRONEWS.CA

INVEST IN OTHERS, REAP THE BENEFITS

Charitable giving has become an essential piece of a financial plan. Studies have shown that philanthropy is one of the top three characteristics that wealthy people share (the other two are spending wisely and investing for the future). On average, self-made millionaires give away 10 per cent of their earnings.

Giving won't set you back financially. Research shows there's a Return On Investment (ROI) when you invest in your community. Rather than getting a dollar return, which is typical of a financial investment, you benefit through expanded networks, increased sales, leadership opportunities, promotions, marketing, job offers, publicity, and much more.

Additionally, Revenue Canada supports giving and will provide an attractive tax credit.

It can be hard to find extra dollars to give. It's hard enough trying to save 10 per cent into your RRSP and pay off debt.

But, giving doesn't just happen. You have to plan to make it happen.

Philanthropy helps to build safe, healthy, growing communities, and giving goes beyond donating money. Charities require volunteers to deliver programs and fundraise and they need strategic direction from board and committee members.

Get involved! First, do some soul searching to determine the causes that are meaningful to you. Has your family been impacted by a particular illness? Do you love the arts? Do children's sports camps make your heart melt?

Next, research the organizations you're passionate about. If you're stumped, visit sites like canadahelps.org, imaginecanada.ca or your local volunteer and community foundations. Try to pick one or two organizations to make your charity of choice.

Find out what the organization needs (usually money and volunteers) and how you can give.

Get to know them by volunteering your time and skills. If you're a web designer, spice up their website. If you're a banker, run a financial training program.

When you're ready, contribute financially to your charity of choice. From a budgeting perspective, it's helpful to contribute regularly on payday. Then, aim to grow your giving annually; e.g. $50 to $75 per month. There are two approaches to donations: either give small amounts to many charities – $20 here, $50 there, or, give to fewer charities, but in greater amounts – $1,000 to one or two organizations. More dollars to fewer organizations can have a greater impact.

Check whether your employer or professional association will match your donation or give you time off for volunteering.

Whatever your motivation is for giving, when you contribute your time, talent and money it demonstrates leadership, and people pay attention to that.

Interest rates/ Savings accounts

BANK	RATE
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CHECK BANK WEB SITES AS SOME RATES REQUIRE MINIMUM ACCOUNT BALANCE

▶ Paying it forward can help to relieve some serious seasonal stress.

Splurge on your soul this holiday season

ON MONEY

ALISON GRIFFITHS
MONEY@METRONEWS.CA

The holiday season is a tough time for many Canadians. The majority of us (60 per cent) live pay cheque to pay cheque as we shoulder heavier debt loads. Just meeting the minimum of holiday expectations stretches some of us to the brink. To top it off, we're inundated by articles extolling the virtues of cost cutting but there doesn't seem to be anything else to prune.

My prescription for such woes is to focus on feeding your soul. It doesn't involve much time or money but I guarantee it will help shed your financial woes and give you a dose of feel good at the same time.

Call up a family member or friend you haven't spoken to for ages.

I grew up in a time when calling long distance was either an occasion or meant bad news. At Christmas we'd huddle around the phone for a few quick words with relatives across the continent. Now long distance rates are so cheap there's no excuse not to call. And if it is long overdue you'll spread considerable joy.

1.5

The maximum percentage of household income Canadians should spend on gift and holiday expenses — according to the non-profit Investors Education Fund.

Visit a shut in

It's a lonely time of year for many seniors in retirement facilities and nursing homes. Those who don't see well enough to read would welcome hearing you read aloud a favourite book. Others might enjoy a drive to see Christmas lights.

Take part

In every city, town and village in the country there are pageants, parades, ceremonies and caroling. Most of them are free. Get out and enjoy yourself!

Take pleasure in the moment

Whether it's walking your dog or even shoveling the snow try to live in the moment rather than seeing it as a chore. Yes, I know it's a cliché, but it really works! Revel in the fact that you've got the health to do these things. My bit of mundane joy for 2011 will be polishing the furniture. Mmmm, love that lemon scent!

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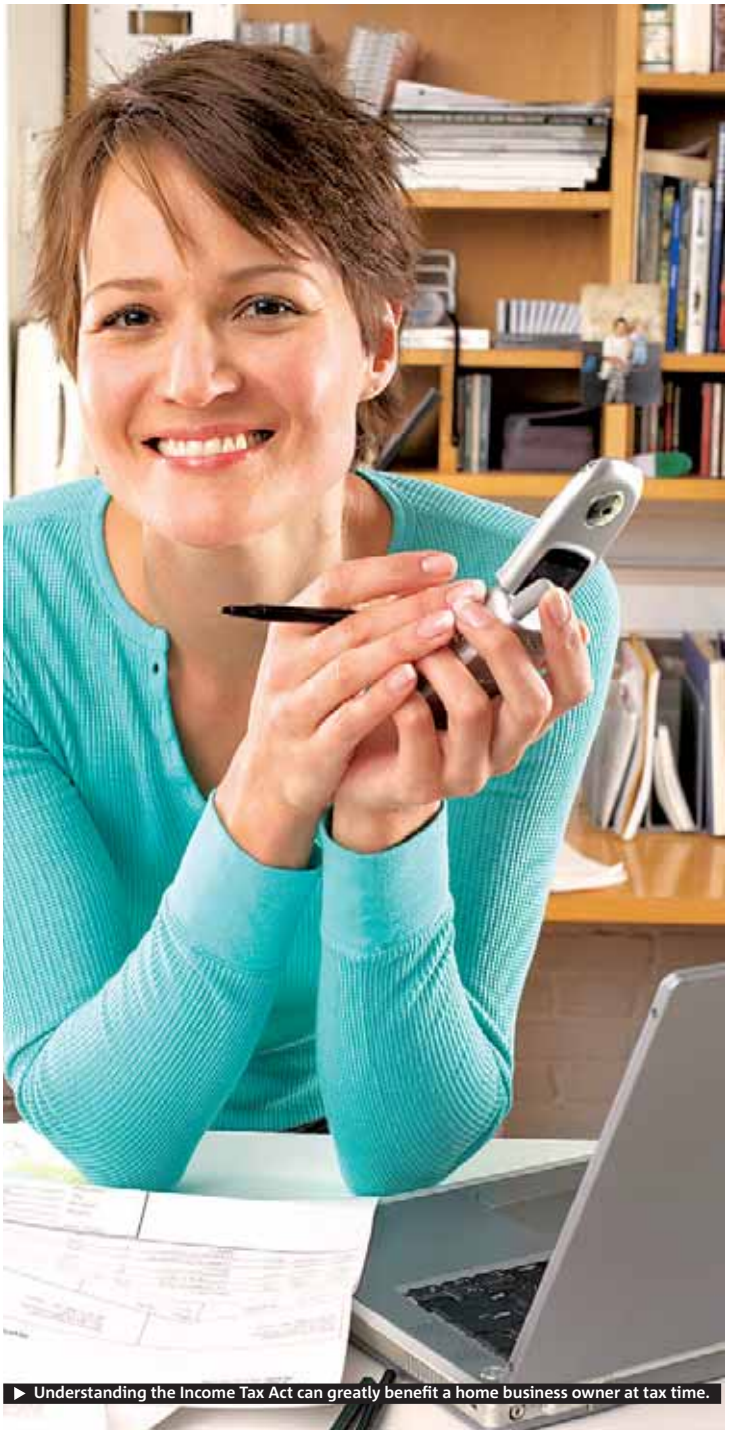

Understanding the Income Tax Act can greatly benefit a home business owner at tax time.

The ins and outs of the at-home office

Get to know what portion of your professional space can be deducted under the Income Tax Act

Did you know that the Income Tax Act limits the circumstances under which a self-employed individual can deduct the costs related to a workspace in the home? They are confined to situations where the space is used exclusively to earn income from a business and on a regular and continuous basis for meeting clients, customers or patients; or if it is the individual's principal place of business.

This claim may be based on the proportionate space within the home that is used as a workplace. Eligible expenses include rent, mortgage interest, realty taxes, insurance, utilities and maintenance. It is generally not advisable to claim capital-cost allowance (CCA) on a portion of the home because that portion would then not qualify for the principal residence exemption when it is ultimately sold.

Similarly, claiming 50 per cent or more business use of the home or making major structural alterations to adapt it to business use will trigger a "change in use," resulting in loss of the principal residence exemption.

The amount a taxpayer can claim is limited to his or her business income before deductions for home workspace. Any unused amount may then be carried forward and claimed in the subsequent year against related business income. To the extent that unused amounts cannot be claimed in the following year, they can be carried forward indefinitely to be claimed at the first available opportunity.

NEWS CANADA

B&B tax bonus

- A bed-and-breakfast enterprise may also qualify as workspace in the home, provided the guest rooms are located inside the owner's home and not in a separate dwelling. Calculate the percentage of space that is designated exclusively for guests, as well for joint-use of owner and guests, in order to determine a realistic apportionment of expenses that can be deducted for business purposes.
- Don't forget to include business storage space in the basement and elsewhere, when determining the proportion of your home used for commercial purposes.

Teach me all things tax

The Certified General Accountants of Ontario has produced its annual personal tax planning guide, an easy-to-use tax resource that details such quintessential topics as income and expenses, tax credits, major federal and provincial changes, plus quick reference tax tips. The booklet is designed to assist individuals, including students and small business owners, with tax planning and compliance.

You can view the guide or order a hardcopy online at cga-ontario.org/Publications/Information_Booklets.

Be sure to also reference the 2010 Student Tax Tips. To locate a Certified General Accountant in your community call 1-800-668-1454 or visit cga-ontario.org/applications/accountantreferral. NEWS CANADA

Some tax season save-the-dates

This year, don't get caught off guard by making note of key dates for the 2010-11 tax season.

January 15
Deadline for employees who acquired qualified publicly listed shares under employee stock-option plans in 2010, to file a letter indicating their intention to defer related benefits. Since January 15, 2011 falls on a Saturday, it would be prudent to complete this task no later than Friday, January 14.

Deadline for employers to remit Ontario employer health-tax (EHT) instalment is December 2010.

January 30
Payintra-family loan interest related to previous taxation year, to avoid income attribution. January 30, 2011 falls on a Sunday this year, so complete this task no later than Friday, January 28.

February 14
Reimburse employer for company car operating costs, to reduce operating benefit for the previous calendar year (optional).

February 15 – Deadline for employers to remit Ontario employer health-tax (EHT) instalment, covering January 2011.

March 1
Last day to make personal- and spousal-RRSP contributions applicable to previous taxation year.

March 15
First-quarter instalments due from taxpayers who are required to remit quarterly.

NEWS CANADA

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AARON LUCY

▶ NBA Power Forward Pau Gasol.

Reaching high to score A DREAM

Ezra Frech won't let a disability stop him from becoming a sporting legend – just like his hero Pau Gasol

ELISABETH BRAW
METRO WORLD NEWS

Ezra Frech and Pau Gasol frequently get together to play basketball, and have plenty of fun doing it. That's somewhat surprising, given that Ezra is a four-year-old with a prosthetic leg, and Gasol is a basketball star — the NBA's best power-forward, to be precise.

But Gasol is a UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador and has made it his mission in life to help children in his adopted hometown of Los Angeles, where he plays for the Los Angeles Lakers. Sometimes he helps the Los Angeles Fire Department teach children about fire safety, sometimes he visits children in the hospital, and sometimes he plays basketball with Ezra.

The duo spoke with Metro — Ezra about his dreams for the future, and Gasol about his own aspirations he had as a child.

When I grow up:
Frech: I want to be a basketball player for the Los Angeles Lakers. And after that, I want to be a coach. My prosthetic legs work great. In my spare time, I want to be a UNICEF Ambassador like Pau Gasol.
Gasol: It was a dream to become a basketball player, but I was also interested in other things, like science and music. If I hadn't become a basketball player, I would have become a scientist or doctor.

My family will consist of:
Frech: I will marry my beautiful girlfriend Sophia, who I met on the blue playground. We will have three boys and two girls and a golden retriever.
Gasol: I'm a family guy, so I always wanted to have several children, three or so, and a wife. The biggest privilege of my career is that I can serve as a role model for children and inspire them.

I will live in:
Frech: I will live four blocks from Staples Center where the Lakers play. And I will drive a car that turns into a helicopter.
Gasol: I didn't know any place outside of Spain. I wanted to grow up and become famous in my hometown.

My hobbies will be:
Frech: Surfing and playing soccer.
Gasol: I played the piano as a child and still do. I have a piano at home. I play music by the usual classical composers, but right now I have a book of French folk songs I love to play from. When I was little I saw my first opera, Tosca, and it's still my favourite opera.

AARON LUCY

▶ Ezra Frech gets a little help from his basketball star buddy.

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CENTENNIAL COLLEGE

Favre. He's back

▶Brett Favre takes a snap before last night's game.

HANNAH FOSLIEN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Favre returns to a snowy field to face the Bears

Brett Favre found the perfect setting to make a surprising return to the field — last night, in the snow. Favre was upgraded to "questionable" from "out" yesterday morning, then tested his sprained throwing shoulder about two hours before kickoff and was named the starter against the Chicago Bears. But he didn't have his star running back behind him. Adrian Peterson was inactive because of thigh and ankle injuries.

Sitting Kadri part of Leafs' project

Rookie taken out of the lineup so he has chance to get 'stronger and faster,' says coach

The Maple Leafs didn't send Nazem Kadri down yesterday, they sent him up, back to the press box where he watched his second consecutive game as a healthy scratch.

While it seems odd to keep the rookie forward on the team if he's not going to dress for games, coach Ron Wilson — evoking Tampa star Steven Stamkos — said there is a plan in place for Kadri, one he hopes will help the 19-year-old blossom into a consistent offensive producer at the NHL level.

"Staying lower to the ice is probably my main concern right now."
NAZEM KADRI

"I'm using the next four days for him to get stronger and faster; in better shape and a lot stronger than he's shown in games," said Wilson.

"Tampa kind of did this a couple of years ago with their young players. They'd play 10 games and then sit out two or three and use the schedule to their advantage to get a little bit stronger and faster. That was particularly the case with Stamkos. You saw him go from a player who couldn't get anything done to being a better player at the end of the season and use that as a springboard into last year and where he is now. We're going to try and do a similar project with (Kadri). He's got to get stronger."

While Stamkos only sat out three games in his rookie season, there were other nights, based on his ice time, when he might as well have been in street clothes. And while no one is suggesting that Kadri is on a career trajectory to be one of the top scorers in the league, a similar type of tough love couldn't hurt a player who has talent but is clearly struggling with the physical aspects of the NHL.

Kadri, whose confidence is never in danger of eroding, totally buys into the plan.

He said he's "not at all" upset about being made a healthy scratch — "No point in getting frustrated," he said — and, he added, "hands down" he'd rather be practising with the big club than playing with the Marlies. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

Toronto FC, Whitecaps will kick off in Vancouver's debut

Having Toronto FC come to town for the Vancouver Whitecaps debut match is the perfect recipe for the team to kick off its inaugural Major League Soccer season, says team president Bob Lenarduzzi.

"It's a fantastic thing," a beaming Lenarduzzi said yesterday. "It just has all the right ingredients."

Home opener

- Toronto will play its home opener March 26 against the expansion Portland Timbers.

The Whitecaps and Toronto will play the first MLS match between Canadian teams March 19 at Empire Field, the league announced. The 2011 MLS season will open March 15 with the Seattle Sounders hosting the Los Angeles Galaxy. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Bucks' Jennings out up to six weeks

Milwaukee Bucks point guard Brandon Jennings will miss four to six weeks as he recovers from surgery to repair a fracture in his left foot.

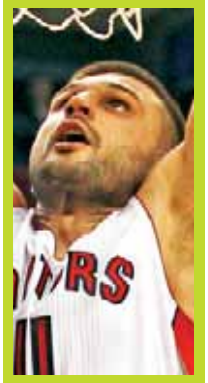
General manager John Hammond said yesterday that the 21-year-old Jennings was examined after Saturday's 95-86 loss to Utah.

Jennings broke the long bone on the outside of his left foot that connects to the little toe.

He had started every game since being picked 10th overall in 2009.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

4 sports

Quoted



"He's a very good point guard to get everybody involved, get the team going. He's not necessarily the flashy one who's trying to go out there and score but he just runs the team well, he knows how to pass the ball very well and when he's on the court, he makes a big difference."
LINAS KLEIZA, ON TEAMMATE JOSE CALDERON. IN THE TWO GAMES SINCE CALDERON RETURNED TO THE RAPTORS' LINEUP, KLEIZA HAS 26 POINTS AND 11 REBOUNDS.

Scan code for sports

Greinke likes team's swagger

'Realistically, we're done making major moves,' says Brewers GM Melvin

Zack Greinke loves the attitude of the Milwaukee Brewers and their willingness to try to reach the post-season immediately.

"The main reason I wanted to get out, I mean, preferred to get out of Kansas City, is I wanted to be on a team that was trying to win this year, because, as a pitcher, you don't really know how long your career is going to be," Greinke said yesterday, a day after he was acquired from the Royals in a six-player trade.

After winning the AL Cy Young Award with a 16-8 record and 2.16 ERA in 2009, the 27-year-old right-hander slumped to 10-14 with a 4.17 ERA last season.

"Just really wanted to be in a place where they were playing to win games right away," he said.

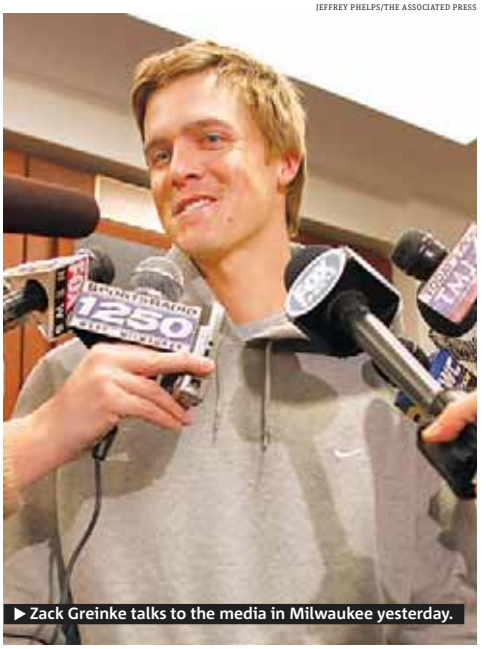
Since the end of the season, the Brewers also acquired Shaun Marcum to join a rotation that also includes holdover Yovani Gallardo. The new players join a core that includes all-stars Prince Fielder, Ryan Braun and Corey Hart to go along with Rickie Weeks and Casey McGehee, closer John Axford and setup man Zach Braddock.

"They've got some really good offence on the team and they seem to have an attitude about them, and I kind of like that," said Greinke.

Melvin traded starting shortstop Alcides Escobar, centre-fielder Lorenzo Cain, top pitching prospect Jake Odorizzi and former first rounder Jeremy Jeffress to the Royals for Greinke, shortstop Yuniesky Betancourt and cash.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

JEFFREY PHELPS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



▶ Zack Greinke talks to the media in Milwaukee yesterday.

Coach's ban reversed by OMHA

A coach with the Peterborough Minor Hockey Association has been reinstated after controversy over a racial slur.

Greg Walsh pulled his team off the ice at a minor league game in Peterborough last month after an opposing player uttered a racial slur at one of his players.

Walsh was suspended by the Ontario Minor Hockey Association until next April for breaking a rule.

Walsh received word of his reinstatement yesterday morning and it is effective immediately.

He was told by the association's executive director in an email that the suspension was overturned.

"There was no explanation given," Walsh told radio station CKRU.

The opposing player was suspended for three games.

The Peterborough Minor Hockey Association is now looking at implementing a new policy on how to better deal with situations such as this one.

NDP sports critic Paul Miller sent a letter to the minor hockey association yesterday applauding the decision to reinstate Walsh.

"I was very concerned about the suspension of coach Walsh," he wrote.

"Serving as a hockey coach means much more than teaching hockey skills to young players. It also means acting as a role model, something that both he, and now the OMHA, have done."

Walsh will be back behind the bench at his team's next game Jan. 10.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Junior teams arrive minus equipment

Sweden, Germany and Norway made it to North America for their warm-up games ahead of the world junior hockey championship — but some of their equipment did not.

The three teams were left scrambling yesterday as some of their bags were caught up in the travel chaos plaguing Europe after days of severe winter weather.

The Swedes and Germans both went shopping for some replacement equipment so they could practise ahead of their exhibition games this week, while the Norwegians decided to wait for their bags to arrive, according to officials from Hockey Canada and USA Hockey.

Either way, all three teams are expected to be ready for exhibition games this week.

Today, Sweden plays Canada in Toronto while Norway takes on Slovakia in Jamestown, N.Y. The Germans play the Czech Republic tomorrow in Rochester, N.Y. The Swedes were missing 10 bags when they arrived in Toronto, but Hockey Canada stepped in to help, setting up an account for its visitors at a local store.

Scott Salmond, Hockey Canada's senior director of national teams, said the Swedes planned to practise yesterday once they had loaded up on new gear and that tonight's game was expected to proceed as scheduled.

He added that the Swedes were hopeful of getting their own equipment in time for the friendly, but they will be fine with the new stuff if not. Salmond said payment for the new gear would be sorted out later between Hockey Canada, Sweden and Bauer Hockey.

Canada's game last night against Switzerland in Oshawa was not affected. The world junior tournament begins Boxing Day in Buffalo, N.Y.

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NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE STATISTICS

FROM THE CANADIAN PRESS

Not including yesterday's games

ANAHEIM

Player	GP	G	A	Pts	+/-	PIM
Perry	36	16	22	38	6	63
Getzlaf	36	13	22	35	3	20
Selanne	27	10	18	28	-3	14
Ryan	36	14	13	27	11	43
Visnovsky	35	4	23	27	0	12
Koivu	35	10	7	17	-7	26
Fowler	30	3	14	17	-6	8
Blake	35	6	6	12	-6	12
Lydman	32	2	10	12	17	14
Parros	35	3	5	8	-1	71
Lupul	8	3	1	4	-2	2
Sexton	17	2	2	4	-6	2
Marchant	35	0	4	4	-8	8
Mara	32	1	1	2	-1	38
McMillan	14	1	1	2	-2	2
Lilja	21	0	2	2	-2	12
Chipchura	20	0	2	2	-1	12
Beleskey	13	0	2	2	-7	4
Sutton	13	0	1	1	-5	24
Bonino	23	0	0	0	-2	4
Brookbank	22	0	0	0	-7	43
Sbisa	22	0	0	0	-10	13
Voros	11	0	0	0	-4	43
Green	11	0	0	0	-2	6
Hiller	31	0	0	0	0	0
McElhinney	9	0	0	0	0	0

ATLANTA

Player	GP	G	A	Pts	+/-	PIM
Byfuglien	34	11	22	33	8	35
Ladd	34	11	19	30	1	10
Enstrom	34	3	20	23	5	12
Peverley	34	8	14	22	-3	27
Kane	32	11	10	21	-3	35
Stewart	34	9	11	20	1	14
Bergfors	27	7	11	18	1	2
Antropov	33	7	10	17	-7	18
Little	28	9	6	15	10	6
Burmistrov	34	5	8	13	2	23
Oduya	34	2	11	13	-6	10
Thorburn	34	5	6	11	-7	12
Slater	29	5	4	9	3	13
Eager	30	3	5	8	6	61
Boulton	28	4	3	7	10	19
Modin	19	4	2	6	-7	2
Bogosian	28	2	3	5	-7	21
Hainsey	34	1	4	5	7	8
Sopel	33	1	4	5	11	8
Dawes	6	0	0	0	-6	0
Meyer	6	0	0	0	-3	4
Stapleton	5	0	0	0	0	0
Welch	2	0	0	0	-1	0
Pavelec	22	0	0	0	0	0
Mason	15	0	0	0	0	2
Mannino	1	0	0	0	0	0

BOSTON

Player	GP	G	A	Pts	+/-	PIM
Lucic	31	16	11	27	15	32
Horton	31	11	12	23	18	27
Krejci	24	5	17	22	10	11
Ryder	31	9	10	19	-3	6
Bergeron	31	6	13	19	8	12
Recchi	31	6	13	19	5	11
Wheeler	31	8	5	13	0	14
Chara	31	4	9	13	14	31
Marchand	31	4	8	12	5	16
Seguin	29	5	6	11	2	8
Seidenberg	31	1	9	10	2	17
Campbell	31	3	4	7	2	39
Caron	20	3	4	7	4	6
Thornton	31	5	1	6	2	57
Ference	31	1	5	6	16	25
Boychuk	21	0	6	6	7	9
Savard	8	1	2	3	-4	2
Stuart	26	0	2	2	3	23
McQuaid	19	0	2	2	5	31
Paille	11	0	1	1	-2	2
Kampfer	5	0	1	1	-1	2
Arniel	1	0	0	0	-1	0
Thomas	22	0	2	2	0	2
Rask	10	0	0	0	0	0

BUFFALO

Player	GP	G	A	Pts	+/-	PIM
Roy	33	10	23	33	-1	16
Vanek	33	13	12	25	-11	12
Leopold	33	7	10	17	-5	16
Ennis	33	7	9	16	1	10
Connolly	25	6	8	14	-10	10
Stafford	18	8	5	13	-3	12
Myers	33	5	7	12	-7	16
Pominville	24	5	6	11	-11	7
Montador	33	3	8	11	9	53
McCormick	32	4	5	9	7	35
Gaustad	33	3	6	9	4	49
Hecht	33	3	6	9	-6	14
Grier	33	2	7	9	1	6
Sekera	32	1	7	8	2	10
Kaleta	32	3	3	6	0	52
Niedermayer	24	0	6	6	-3	14
Gerbe	20	0	5	5	2	8
Butler	20	0	3	3	-1	8
Adam	10	1	1	2	-3	8
Morrison	21	1	0	1	-2	12
Rivet	14	0	1	1	-6	10
Mancari	3	0	1	1	-1	0
Weber	13	0	0	0	-1	26
Ellis	6	0	0	0	-1	0
Stuart	3	0	0	0	1	2
Miller	24	0	0	0	0	0
Enroth	5	0	0	0	0	0
Lalime	6	0	1	1	0	0

CALGARY

Player	GP	G	A	Pts	+/-	PIM
Iginla	33	14	16	30	-3	21
Tanguay	33	9	16	25	3	12
Bourque	31	13	11	24	-5	18
Morrison	33	5	14	19	3	8
Giordano	33	3	15	18	4	40
Stajan	27	2	16	18	5	10
Hagman	33	8	9	17	-5	20
Jokinen	30	5	10	15	-6	28
Glencross	30	7	5	12	1	40
Babchuk	33	4	8	12	-4	18
Bouwmeester	33	3	8	11	5	32
Backlund	32	4	4	8	4	10
Sarich	27	1	7	8	8	27
Moss	20	3	3	6	1	8
Jackman	33	3	2	5	-5	59
Kostopoulos	33	2	3	5	-4	43
Regehr	32	0	3	3	4	20
Conroy	17	2	0	2	-1	8
Staios	15	1	1	2	-1	20
Mikkelson	20	0	2	2	-6	7
Meyer	16	0	2	2	0	17
Pardy	8	0	1	1	0	8
Sutter	4	0	1	1	-1	5
Kotalik	7	0	0	0	0	2
Brodie	3	0	0	0	-3	2
Ivanans	1	0	0	0	-1	5
Kiprusoff	28	0	0	0	0	0
Karlsson	6	0	0	0	0	0

CAROLINA

Player	GP	G	A	Pts	+/-	PIM
Staal	31	16	17	33	-5	24
Skinner	31	8	15	23	-5	6
Jokinen	31	5	18	23	-3	10
Ruutu	31	7	13	20	-9	26
Pitkanen	29	2	16	18	8	28
Sutter	31	7	6	13	10	10
Cole	31	5	7	12	5	12
Samsonov	27	5	8	13	3	8
LaRose	31	6	6	12	-6	22
Corvo	31	6	6	12	-3	12
White	29	2	7	9	-12	10
McBain	31	1	8	9	4	14
Dwyer	31	5	3	8	1	6
Gleason	31	2	4	6	-4	24
Carter	29	1	4	5	-4	22
Tlusty	21	3	1	4	-2	4
Harrison	29	0	3	3	-4	31
Matsumoto	10	2	0	2	-2	4
Bodie	21	0	2	2	-3	19
Dalpe	7	0	1	1	0	0
Bowman	8	0	0	0	1	6
Carson	3	0	0	0	2	2
Rodney	2	0	0	0	0	2
Boychuk	1	0	0	0	0	0
Ward	27	0	0	0	0	0
Peters	7	0	0	0	0	0

CHICAGO

Player	GP	G	A	Pts	+/-	PIM
Sharp	34	18	16	34	-7	12
Toews	35	15	17	32	6	10
Kane	28	11	16	27	-4	12
Keith	35	3	19	22	-7	10
Kopecky	34	5	15	20	-8	30
Seabrook	35	3	17	20	-1	16
Brouwer	35	9	10	19	1	14
Bickell	32	9	9	18	2	17
Hossa	21	8	10	18	4	14
Stalberg	32	6	7	13	-3	16
Dowell	35	4	9	13	8	40
Skille	34	4	8	12	2	23
Campbell	22	1	10	11	11	2
Bolland	28	3	7	10	2	20
Pisani	27	5	4	9	-1	8
Boynton	33	0	6	6	0	30
Cullimore	29	0	5	5	4	4
Morin	9	2	1	3	2	9
Jones	33	1	2	3	-1	19
Rozsival	31	3	5	8	-12	29
Hendry	16	1	1	2	-2	8
Leddy	6	1	0	1	-1	0
Scott	26	0	1	1	-2	38
Potulny	3	0	0	0	-1	0
Smith	3	0	0	0	-2	0
Johnson	2	0	0	0	-1	0
Pirri	1	0	0	0	-1	0
Klinkhammer	1	0	0	0	1	0
Brophey	1	0	0	0	0	0
Crawford	17	0	0	0	0	0
Turco	20	0	0	0	0	6

COLORADO

Player	GP	G	A	Pts	+/-	PIM
Duchene	33	13	21	34	8	21
Stastny	32	13	19	32	0	24
Hejduk	28	11	20	31	-5	6
Liles	33	5	23	28	15	23
Stewart	23	11	14	25	-2	36
Fleischmann	32	9	12	21	5	16
Jones	30	11	8	19	4	10
Shattenkirk	22	5	14	19	1	12
Yip	30	7	6	13	-2	29
Winnik	32	5	8	13	5	14
O'Reilly	33	4	9	13	8	2
Porter	27	7	4	11	10	12
Mauldin	19	5	5	10	10	2
Dupuis	31	3	7	10	6	19
Galiardi	16	5	3	8	1	8
Wilson	24	2	5	7	5	15
McLeod	32	4	2	6	-3	99
Cumiskey	11	1	4	5	0	8
Hunwick	32	1	3	4	0	11
Foote	21	0	4	4	-4	13
Holos	13	0	3	3	5	2
Gulik	5	1	1	2	3	2
Olver	4	0	2	2	1	2
Liffiton	4	1	0	1	3	17
Quincey	21	0	1	1	-5	18
Koci	6	0	0	0	-2	5
Anderson	17	0	1	1	0	4
Budaj	17	0	0	0	0	0

COLUMBUS

Player	GP	G	A	Pts	+/-	PIM
Nash	31	17	9	26	-2	10
Umberger	32	8	14	22	3	26
Brassard	32	7	13	20	-5	16
Vermette	32	9	9	18	3	22
Voracek	32	5	13	18	-3	14
Clark	29	5	7	12	1	17
Methot	27	0	11	11	12	16
Wilson	21	4	5	9	1	10
Stralman	23	0	9	9	-5	12
Huselius	10	6	2	8	-4	6
Klesla	31	1	7	8	15	18
Pahlsson	32	2	5	7	-1	14
Dorsett	30	2	5	7	-3	64
Filatov	23	0	7	7	3	8
Hejda	30	2	4	6	-3	14
Russell	25	2	4	6	-3	10
Commodore	19	2	4	6	-8	39
Tyutin	30	1	5	6	-4	12
Boll	23	2	3	5	1	91
MacKenzie	23	2	3	5	2	4
Moreau	15	1	4	5	-1	14
Murray	12	1	3	4	2	2
Sestito	5	1	0	1	-1	26
Holden	5	0	0	0	0	0
Guenin	3	0	0	0	-3	2
Blunden	1	0	0	0	-1	0
Mason	20	0	1	1	0	0
Garon	16	0	0	0	0	2

DALLAS

Player	GP	G	A	Pts	+/-	PIM
Richards	33	15	23	38	8	20
Eriksson	33	14	20	34	12	4
Neal	33	13	15	28	11	31
Ribeiro	33	5	21	26	0	10
Morrow	33	12	8	20	0	27
Benn	30	7	11	18	-4	23
Robidas	32	3	13	16	7	45
Ott	33	7	7	14	-8	70
Daley	33	2	9	11	8	14
Segal	29	4	4	8	-1	20
Burish	33	3	1	4	-2	44
Wandell	32	3	1	4	-1	6
Grossman	33	0	4	4	-2	27
Woywitka	17	0	4	4	9	6
Skrastins	33	1	2	3	-2	26
Niskanen	30	0	3	3	0	23
Petersen	27	1	1	2	-6	6
Sutherby	25	1	1	2	-4	33
Gagnon	5	0	2	2	2	0
Fistric	19	0	1	1	-5	20
Larsen	3	0	1	1	-3	0
Barch	15	0	0	0	-5	27
Lehtonen	24	0	2	2	0	2
Raycroft	10	0	0	0	0	0
Bachman	1	0	0	0	0	0

DETROIT

Player	GP	G	A	Pts	+/-	PIM
Datsyuk	32	12	27	39	8	11
Zetterberg	32	10	23	33	5	14
Lidstrom	32	7	19	26	1	8
Franzen	31	14	10	24	-2	16
Cleary	32	14	9	23	4	6
Bertuzzi	32	5	15	20	2	24
Rafalski	22	0	18	18	6	4
Holmstrom	32	9	8	17	2	36
Filppula	32	7	10	17	2	12
Kronwall	32	7	8	15	7	14
Stuart	32	2	9	11	7	24
Eaves	27	7	2	9	4	8
Abdelkader	24	3	5	8	12	28
Modano	20	2	6	8	-3	6
Helm	32	2	5	7	5	2
Ericsson	24	2	4	6	5	34
Hudler	27	1	5	6	-7	8
Bolei	32	0	5	5	4	30
Miller	25	1	3	4	-2	2
Kindl	11	0	0	0	-3	12
Janik	7	0	0	0	-2	7
Draper	5	0	0	0	-1	0
Howard	25	0	0	0	0	2
Osgood	7	0	0	0	0	2
MacDonald	1	0	0	0	0	0

EDMONTON

Player	GP	G	A	Pts	+/-	PIM
Whitney	31	0	24	24	12	31
Eberle	31	9	13	22	-2	4
Gagner	31	9	12	21	0	14
Penner	31	10	10	20	-6	29
Hall	31	10	9	19	-2	6
Hemsky	21	7	11	18	5	4
Horcoff	24	7	8	15	4	14
Paajarvi	30	4	10	14	3	10
Gilbert	31	5	6	11	-7	20
Foster	30	3	8	11	-8	18
Jones	31	7	3	10	-5	13
Cogliano	31	3	5	8	-12	29
Brule	30	4	2	6	-8	29
Peckham	28	1	4	5	-1	66
Vandermeer	24	1	4	5	3	16
Omark	4	1	3	4	1	0
Fraser	31	2	1	3	-1	47
Smid	27	0	3	3	-5	25
Stortini	21	0	2	2	-2	48
O'Marra	3	0	2	2	1	2
Strudwick	13	0	0	0	-6	9
Jacques	12	0	0	0	-1	6
MacIntyre	8	0	0	0	0	34
Belle	4	0	0	0	-1	0
Khabibulin	21	0	0	0	0	0
Gerber	2	0	1	1	0	0
Dubnyk	10	0	0	0	0	0

FLORIDA

Player	GP	G	A	Pts	+/-	PIM
Frolik	29	8	11	19	7	6
Weiss	29	8	10	18	0	20
Booth	30	8	9	17	-7	12
McCabe	30	4	11	15	7	24
Wideman	30	2	13	15	-8	19
Reasoner	30	6	8	14	7	10
Santorelli	30	8	5	13	-7	6
Matthias	28	4	7	11	6	4
Dvorak	25	5	5	10	1	8
Reinprecht	25	4	5	9	-2	6
Bernier	22	4	5	9	-5	8
Higgins	25	3	6	9	3	2
Olesz	17	2	7	9	0	2
Stillman	20	3	5	8	4	10
Kulikov	29	1	5	6	6	6
Weaver	30	1	4	5	-2	10
Garrison	21	1	3	4	-2	4
Dadonov	5	1	3	4	4	0
Ellerby	17	0	4	4	5	6
Thomas	9	1	2	3	2	2
Hordichuk	23	1	1	2	2	32
Repik	8	1	1	2	-4	4
McArdle	5	0	0	0	-1	11
Callahan	2	0	0	0	0	0
Vokoun	25	0	0	0	0	2
Clemmensen	7	0	0	0	0	0

LOS ANGELES

Player	GP	G	A	Pts	+/-	PIM
Kopitar	31	14	18	32	7	6
Williams	31	11	17	28	9	33
Brown	31	11	14	25	11	35
Stoll	31	8	12	20	4	12
Smyth	31	11	8	19	2	23
Johnson	31	2	17	19	-6	32
Simmonds	31	7	6	13	2	38
Doughty	25	2	11	13	9	26
Handzus	31	4	7	11	3	10
Ponikarovsky	19	3	4	7	3	12
Scuderi	31	0	7	7	12	8
Richardson	27	4	2	6	-7	12
Clifford	27	2	3	5	-5	38
Mitchell	15	1	4	5	7	5
Drewiske	27	0	5	5	-1	13
Lewis	21	1	3	4	-4	4
Harrold	15	1	3	4	2	4
Parse	5	1	3	4	5	0
Martinez	11	2	1	3	-1	10
Moller	4	1	2	3	1	0
Loktionov	7	1	1	2	-1	2
Westgarth	25	0	2	2	-7	44
Schenn	8	0	2	2	-1	0
Greene	22	0	1	1	-3	34
Muzzin	11	0	1	1	-2	0
King	6	0	0	0	-2	2
Zeiler	4	0	0	0	-1	0
Quick	23	0	1	1	0	0
Bernier	8	0	0	0	0	0

MINNESOTA

Player	GP	G	A	Pts	+/-	PIM
Koivu	31	7	21	28	5	26
Havlat	31	7	21	28	1	14
Burns	29	9	10	19	-3	41
Cullen	28	6	13	19	-3	12
Miettinen	26	8	8	16	-6	14
Zidlicky	25	4	12	16	-2	20
Brunette	31	6	9	15	-4	4
Clutterbuck	31	8	3	11	-4	22
Schultz	31	2	7	9	-1	24
Brodziak	31	5	3	8	3	19
Madden	29	4	3	7	-12	2
Latendresse	8	3	3	6	2	8
O'Sullivan	21	2	3	5	0	2
Bouchard	8	1	4	5	-1	0
Barker	26	0	4	4	-8	10
Kobasew	17	3	0	3	-4	6
Nystrom	31	1	2	3	-7	22
Falk	18	0	2	2	-1	6
Stoner	12	0	2	2	-1	22
Zanon	28	0	2	2	0	2
Staubitz	28	0	1	1	-3	45
Wellman	12	0	1	1	-1	4
Scandella	5	0	1	1	-2	2
Spurgeon	9	0	0	0	1	2
Earl	6	0	0	0	-3	0
Almond	4	0	0	0	-1	0
Kassian	4	0	0	0	-1	12
Gillies	3	0	0	0	0	0
Peters	2	0	0	0	0	2
Backstrom	21	0	0	0	0	0
Theodore	11	0	0	0	0	0

MONTREAL

Player	GP	G	A	Pts	+/-	PIM
Plekanec	32	10	18	28	7	26
Cammalleri	32	12	13	25	6	25
Kostitsyn	33	9	12	21	9	12
Gionta	33	11	9	20	3	6
Pouliot	33	7	10	17	2	14
Halpern	33	6	10	16	9	19
Hamrlik	31	3	12	15	9	30
Gomez	31	4	10	14	-3	8
Darche	27	5	6	11	8	8
Subban	30	2	9	11	-1	33
Spacek	33	1	9	10	7	22
Lapierre	33	5	3	8	-3	61
Gorges	33	1	6	7	-3	18
Moen	33	3	3	6	-1	49
Price	32	2	4	6	1	20
Picard	25	2	3	5	8	4
Markov	7	1	2	3	2	4
Pacioretty	3	1	2	3	1	0
Pyatt	28	1	1	2	-4	2
Gill	33	0	2	2	-7	17
Weber	6	0	2	2	3	0
Boyd	10	1	0	1	-6	2
Price	30	0	1	1	0	0
Auld	3	0	0	0	0	0

NASHVILLE

Player	GP	G	A	Pts	+/-	PIM
Sullivan	32	10	10	20	7	22
O'Reilly	32	6	12	18	8	2
Erat	25	5	11	16	6	14
Hornqvist	29	8	7	15	-2	16
Weber	32	5	10	15	-3	28
Wilson	32	7	7	14	5	4
Goc	26	6	8	14	7	2
Kostitsyn	28	5	8	13	0	8
Suter	21	1	12	13	8	16
Franson	30	4	8	12	6	12
Tootoo	30	4	6	10	3	45
Dumont	32	4	5	9	2	10
Klein	31	2	7	9	7	13
Bouillon	31	1	8	9	2	18
Ward	32	3	5	8	-4	18
Legwand	18	2	6	8	-3	8
Smithson	32	3	3	6	-4	14
O'Brien	32	2	3	5	-7	24
Spaling	25	1	1	2	-7	6
Sulzer	14	0	0	0	-6	6
Belak	5	0	0	0	-1	0
Lombardi	2	0	0	0	-1	0
Begin	2	0	0	0	-2	4
Laakso	1	0	0	0	0	0
Klasen	1	0	0	0	-1	0
Lindback	16	0	0	0	0	0
Rinne	19	0	0	0	0	6
Dekanich	1	0	0	0	0	0

NEW JERSEY

Player	GP	G	A	Pts	+/-	PIM
Elias	31	6	16	22	-7	2
Kovalchuk	31	8	10	18	-23	12
Zajac	32	3	13	16	-5	15
Arnott	32	9	6	15	-10	16
Zubrus	32	4	9	13	-14	24
Langenbrunner	24	3	8	11	-12	14
Greene	32	2	8	10	-21	8
Tedenby	17	4	4	8	-2	6
Clarkson	32	4	3	7	-16	69
Parise	12	3	3	6	-1	6
Taormina	17	3	2	5	-2	2
Rolston	18	2	3	5	-9	12
Vasyunov	17	1	4	5	0	0
Tallinder	32	1	3	4	-17	14
Corrente	15	0	4	4	-2	37
Mair	29	1	0	1	-10	27
Fayne	12	1	0	1	-7	2
Mills	4	1	0	1	1	5
Pelley	32	0	1	1	-10	23
White	31	0	1	1	-3	28
Volchenkov	20	0	0	0	-5	12
Magnan	18	0	0

BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE TORONTO RAPTORS

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pts	Home	Away	Last 10	Strk
d-Philadelphia	34	22	7	2	3	117	82	49	12-5-0-2	10-2-2-1	7-1-0-2	W5
d-Washington	35	19	12	2	2	104	99	42	12-4-1-2	7-8-1-0	2-6-1-1	W1
d-Montreal	33	19	12	2	0	87	72	40	12-5-2-0	7-7-0-0	5-4-1-0	L1
Pittsburgh	33	21	10	2	0	104	78	44	10-6-1-0	11-4-1-0	8-2-0-0	L2
Atlanta	34	18	11	1	4	109	97	41	10-6-0-2	8-5-1-2	6-2-0-2	W1
NY Rangers	35	20	14	1	0	105	91	41	8-8-1-0	12-6-0-0	6-4-0-0	L1
Tampa Bay	32	18	10	2	2	99	108	40	9-2-1-1	9-8-1-1	6-2-0-2	W3
Boston	31	17	10	1	3	89	65	38	8-5-1-2	9-5-0-1	5-3-1-1	W1
Carolina	31	15	12	0	4	89	94	34	7-5-0-1	8-7-0-3	5-2-0-3	W4
Ottawa	35	14	17	3	1	81	106	32	8-9-1-1	5-8-2-0	3-4-2-1	L2
Buffalo	34	13	17	4	0	84	95	30	7-9-1-0	6-8-3-0	5-4-1-0	L2
Florida	30	14	16	0	0	80	78	28	7-6-0-0	7-10-0-0	4-6-0-0	W1
Toronto	32	12	16	2	2	72	96	28	8-6-2-1	4-10-0-1	4-5-1-0	L2
New Jersey	32	9	21	1	1	58	98	20	5-8-1-1	4-13-0-0	2-8-0-0	L2
NY Islanders	30	6	18	3	3	65	104	18	4-7-1-2	2-11-2-1	2-6-1-1	L1

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pts	Home	Away	Last 10	Strk
d-Detroit	32	20	8	3	1	105	88	44	12-4-2-1	8-4-1-0	4-4-2-0	L2
d-Dallas	33	20	10	1	2	95	90	43	11-3-1-1	9-7-0-1	6-2-1-1	W2
d-Colorado	33	19	10	4	0	121	105	42	10-4-1-0	9-6-3-0	6-1-3-0	W6
Vancouver	30	18	8	2	2	98	77	40	11-3-1-1	7-5-1-1	7-2-1-0	W3
Nashville	32	17	9	4	2	83	79	40	8-2-3-2	9-7-1-0	8-1-1-0	L1
San Jose	33	17	11	4	1	100	94	39	8-4-2-1	9-7-2-0	6-3-0-1	W2
Chicago	35	18	14	2	1	111	103	39	10-9-0-0	8-5-2-1	6-3-1-0	W2
Anaheim	36	17	15	2	2	93	106	38	11-6-0-1	6-9-2-1	5-4-0-1	L2
Los Angeles	31	18	12	1	0	90	75	37	11-2-1-0	7-10-0-0	5-4-1-0	L1
Phoenix	31	15	9	4	3	88	87	37	6-4-2-2	9-5-2-1	4-4-0-2	W1
St. Louis	31	15	11	2	3	81	88	35	10-3-0-2	5-8-2-1	3-5-1-1	L1
Columbus	32	16	13	2	1	82	90	35	8-8-0-1	8-5-2-0	3-5-1-1	L4
Minnesota	31	14	13	1	3	75	90	32	7-7-0-2	7-6-1-1	4-4-1-1	W1
Calgary	33	14	16	1	2	90	96	31	9-7-0-0	5-9-1-2	5-4-0-1	L1
Edmonton	31	12	14	1	4	84	108	29	6-8-1-1	6-6-1-2	6-3-0-1	W1

d — division leaders ranked 1-2-3 regardless of points; a team winning in overtime or shootout is credited with two points and a victory in the W column; the team losing in overtime or shootout receives one point which is registered in the OTL (overtime loss) or SL (shootout loss) column.

Last night's results
Atlanta at Toronto
Florida at Philadelphia
Phoenix at Pittsburgh
Anaheim at Boston
Carolina at Tampa Bay
Vancouver at St. Louis
Calgary at Minnesota
Sunday's results
Colorado 3 Montreal 2
Washington 3 Ottawa 2
Chicago 3 Los Angeles 2
Dallas 4 Detroit 3 (OT)
Tonight's games
(All times Eastern)
Anaheim at Buffalo, 7 p.m.
St. Louis at Atlanta, 7 p.m.
Calgary at Columbus, 7 p.m.
New Jersey at Washington, 7:30 p.m.
Montreal at Dallas, 9 p.m.
Los Angeles at Colorado, 9:30 p.m.
Edmonton at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.

SCORING LEADERS

	G	A	PT
Crosby, Pgh	26	28	54
Stamkos, TB	25	21	46
St. Louis, TB	12	28	40
Datsyuk, Det	12	27	39
Perry, Ana	16	22	38
D.Sedin, Vcr	16	22	38
B.Richards, Dal	15	23	38
Ovechkin, Wash	12	26	38
H.Sedin, Vcr	6	31	37
Getzlaf, Ana	13	22	35
Sharp, Chi	18	16	34
Duchene, Col	13	21	34
Backstrom, Wash	11	23	34
Semin, Wash	18	15	33
Eriksson, Dal	14	19	33
Byfuglien, Atl	11	22	33
Roy, Buf	10	23	33
Zetterberg, Det	10	23	33
Toews, Chi	15	17	32
Kopitar, LA	14	18	32
P.Stastny, Col	13	19	32
M.Richards, Pha	11	21	32
Giroux, Pha	16	15	31
Heatley, SJ	14	17	31
Hejduk, Col	11	20	31
Iginla, Cal	14	16	30
E.Staal, Car	13	17	30
Ladd, Atl	11	19	30
Clowe, SJ	9	21	30
Neal, Dal	13	15	28
J.Williams, LA	11	17	28
Plekanec, Mtl	10	18	28
Selanne, Ana	10	18	28
Havlat, Minn	7	21	28
M.Koivu, Minn	7	21	28
J.Thornton, SJ	7	21	28
Liles, Col	5	23	28
Lucic, Bos	16	11	27
Dubinsky, NYR	14	13	27
Ryan, Ana	14	13	27
J.Carter, Pha	13	14	27
P.Kane, Chi	11	16	27
Letang, Pgh	5	22	27
Visnovsky, Ana	4	23	27
Nash, Clb	17	9	26
Lidstrom, Det	7	19	26
Ribeiro, Dal	5	21	26
Briere, Pha	16	9	25
Kesler, Vcr	15	10	25
Vanek, Buf	13	12	25
Cammalleri, Mtl	12	13	25
Brown, LA	11	14	25
Malkin, Pgh	11	14	25
C.Stewart, Col	11	14	25
Tanguay, Cal	9	16	25
MacArthur, Tor	9	16	25
Malone, TB	9	16	25
Pavelski, SJ	9	16	25
Couture, SJ	17	7	24
Cleary, Det	14	10	24
Franzen, Det	14	10	24
R.Bourque, Cal	13	11	24
Marleau, SJ	11	13	24
Leino, Pha	8	16	24
Backes, StL	7	17	24
Ry.Whitney, Edm	0	24	24
Grabovski, Tor	11	12	23
Horton, Bos	11	12	23
Callahan, NYR	10	13	23
Hartnell, Pha	8	15	23
Boyle, SJ	3	20	23
Enstrom, Atl	3	20	23
Alfredsson, Ott	11	11	22
Eberle, Edm	9	13	22
Peverley, Atl	8	14	22
Skinner, Car	8	14	22
Umberger, Clb	8	14	22
Elias, NJ	6	16	22
Krjeci, Bos	5	17	22
Keith, Chi	3	19	22
E.Kane, Atl	11	10	21
Fleischmann, Col	9	12	21
Gagner, Edm	9	12	21
Kostitsyn, Mtl	9	12	21

Not including last night's games

FOOTBALL

NCAA

BOWL GAMES

All times Eastern
Tonight's game
BEEF 'O' BRADY'S BOWL
At St. Petersburg, Fla.
Louisville (6-6) vs. Southern Mississippi (8-4), 8 p.m.
Tomorrow's game
MAACO BOWL
At Las Vegas
Utah (10-2) vs. Boise State (11-1), 8 p.m.
Thursday's game
POINSETTIA BOWL
At San Diego, Calif.
San Diego State (8-4) vs. Navy (8-3), 8 p.m.
Friday's game
HAWAII BOWL
At Honolulu
Hawaii (10-3) vs. Tulsa (9-3), 8 p.m.
Sunday's game
LITTLE CAESARS PIZZA BOWL
At Detroit
Toledo (8-4) vs. Florida International (6-6), 8:30 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 27
INDEPENDENCE BOWL
At Shreveport, La.
Georgia Tech (6-6) vs. Air Force (8-4), 5 p.m.
Tuesday, Dec. 28
CHAMPS SPORTS BOWL
At Orlando, Fla.
North Carolina State (8-4) vs. West Virginia (9-3), 6:30 p.m.
INSIGHT BOWL
At Tempe, Ariz.
Missouri (10-2) vs. Iowa (7-5), 10 p.m.
Wednesday, Dec. 29
MILITARY BOWL
At Landover, Md.
East Carolina (6-6) vs. Maryland (8-4), 2:30 p.m.
TEXAS BOWL
At Houston
Baylor (7-5) vs. Illinois (6-6), 6 p.m.
ALAMO BOWL
At San Antonio
Arizona (7-5) vs. Oklahoma State (10-2), 9 p.m.
Thursday, Dec. 30
ARMED FORCES BOWL
At Fort Worth, Texas
Southern Methodist (7-6) vs. Army (6-5), Noon
PINSTRIPE BOWL
At Bronx, N.Y.
Syracuse (7-5) vs. Kansas State (7-5), 3:30 p.m.
MUSIC CITY BOWL
At Nashville, Tenn.
North Carolina (7-5) vs. Tennessee (6-6), 6:30 p.m.
HOLIDAY BOWL
At San Diego, Calif.
Nebraska (10-3) vs. Washington (6-6), 10 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 31
MEINEKE BOWL
At Charlotte, N.C.
Clemson (6-6) vs. South Florida (7-5), Noon
SUN BOWL
At El Paso, Texas
Notre Dame (7-5) vs. Miami (7-5), 2 p.m.
LIBERTY BOWL
At Memphis, Tenn.
Georgia (6-6) vs. Central Florida (10-3), 3:30 p.m.
CHICK-FIL-A BOWL
At Atlanta
South Carolina (9-4) vs. Florida State (9-4), 7:30 p.m.

SOCCER

ENGLAND

PREMIER LEAGUE

Yesterday's result
Manchester City 1 Everton 2

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
d-Boston	22	4	.846	—
d-Miami	21	8	.724	2½
d-Chicago	16	9	.640	5½
Orlando	16	10	.615	6
Atlanta	17	12	.586	6½
New York	16	12	.571	7
Indiana	12	14	.462	10
Philadelphia	11	16	.407	11½
Milwaukee	10	15	.400	11½
Toronto	10	18	.357	13
Charlotte	9	17	.346	13
Detroit	9	19	.321	14
Cleveland	8	19	.296	14½
New Jersey	8	20	.286	15
Washington	6	19	.240	15½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
d-San Antonio	23	3	.885	—
Dallas	21	5	.808	2
d-L.A. Lakers	21	7	.750	3
d-Oklahoma City	19	9	.679	5
d-Utah	19	9	.679	5
Denver	16	10	.615	7
New Orleans	16	11	.593	7½
Portland	14	14	.500	10
Phoenix	13	13	.500	10
Houston	12	15	.444	11½
Memphis	12	16	.429	12
Golden State	9	17	.346	14
L.A. Clippers	7	21	.250	17
Minnesota	6	22	.214	18
Sacramento	5	20	.200	17½

d-division leader
Last night's results
Orlando at Atlanta
Utah at Cleveland
New Orleans at Indiana
Charlotte at Washington
Dallas at Miami
Phoenix at San Antonio
Milwaukee at Portland
Houston at Golden State
Minnesota at L.A. Clippers
Sunday's results
Boston 99 Indiana 88
New Jersey 89 Atlanta 82
L.A. Lakers 120 Toronto 110
Houston 102 Sacramento 93
Detroit 111 New Orleans 108, OT
Phoenix 113 Oklahoma City 110
Tonight's games
(All times Eastern)
Oklahoma City at Charlotte, 7 p.m.
Dallas at Orlando, 7 p.m.
Philadelphia at Chicago, 8 p.m.
New Jersey at Memphis, 8 p.m.
Golden State at Sacramento, 10 p.m.
Milwaukee at L.A. Lakers, 10:30 p.m.

SCORING AVERAGE

	G	FG	FT	PTS	AVG
Durant, OKC	24	213	196	658	27.4
Stoudemire, NYK	28	281	174	742	26.5
Bryant, LAL	28	246	191	724	25.9
Nowitzki, DAL	26	244	131	644	24.8
James, MIA	29	238	198	710	24.5
Ellis, GOL	26	245	108	636	24.5
Rose, CHI	24	224	93	584	24.3
Anthony, DEN	24	200	161	576	24.0
Wade, MIA	28	228	180	660	23.6
Gordon, LAC	26	196	182	609	23.4
Martin, HOU	27	178	207	625	23.1
Westbrook, OKC	28	217	203	646	23.1
Williams, UTA	28	208	167	629	22.5
Howard, ORL	24	182	156	520	21.7
Bargnani, TOR	26	211	102	556	21.4
Beasley, MIN	26	225	83	554	21.3
Love, MIN	28	200	153	591	21.1
Granger, IND	25	183	104	526	21.0
Gay, MEM	27	219	92	566	21.0
Griffin, LAC	28	226	127	580	20.7
Scola, HOU	27	224	98	546	20.2
Ginobili, SAN	26	160	135	516	19.8
Gasol, LAL	28	214	125	553	19.8
J. Richardson, PHX	25	183	55	483	19.3
West, NOR	26	203	94	501	19.3
Lopez, NJN	28	191	153	535	19.1
Aldridge, POR	28	207	107	524	18.7
Pierce, BOS	26	167	116	480	18.5
Felton, NYK	28	185	95	516	18.4
Bosh, MIA	29	201	122	527	18.2
Randolph, MEM	24	177	76	433	18.0

Not including last night's games

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL

MLB

AMERICAN LEAGUE
CHICAGO WHITE SOX — Agreed to terms with RHP Jesse Crain on a three-year contract. Named Joe McEwing manager of Charlotte (IL), Bobby Magallenes manager of Birmingham (SL), Julio Vinas manager of Winston-Salem (Carolina), Tommy Thompson manager of Kannapolis (SAL), Ryan Newman manager of Great Falls (Pioneer), Pete Rose Jr. manager of Bristol (Appalachian) and Devon White baserunning instructor.
CLEVELAND INDIANS — Agreed to terms with OF Austin Kearns on a one-year contract.
NATIONAL LEAGUE
HOUSTON ASTROS — Agreed to terms with UT Bill Hall on a one-year contract.
PITTSBURGH PIRATES — Agreed to terms with INF Josh Fields on a minor league contract.
SAN DIEGO PADRES — Agreed to terms with INF Orlando Hudson on a two-year contract.
SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS — Agreed to terms with RHP Guillermo Mota on a minor league contract.
WASHINGTON NATIONALS — Agreed to terms with OF Rick Ankiel and RHP Ryan Mattheus on one-year contracts and RHP Joe Bisenius, RH Tim Wood, 1B Michael Aubrey, INF Brian Bixler, OF Jeff Frazier and OF Jonathan Van Every on minor league contracts.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION

FORT WORTH CATS — Released OF Kennard Bibbs and RHP Colin Allen.

FRONTIER LEAGUE

RIVER CITY RASCALS — Traded SS Jorge Gutierrez and RHP Tony Marsala to Kalamazoo for their first-round pick in the dispersal draft. Acquired LHP Todd Privett from Joliet (Northern) to complete a previous trade. Signed LHP Kirkland Rivers to a contract extension. Signed SS Brian Harris.

GOLDEN LEAGUE

NA KOA IKAIKA MAUI — Named Garry Templeton manager.

BASKETBALL

NBA

LEAGUE OFFICE — Approved the board of governors has approved the sale of the New Orleans Hornets to the league.

FOOTBALL

NFL

MINNESOTA VIKINGS — Placed G Steve Hutchinson on injured reserve. Signed QB R.J. Archer from the practice squad.

CFL

B.C. LIONS — Signed QB Travis Lulay to a contract extension.

HOCKEY

NHL

BOSTON BRUINS — Reassigned D Cody Wild from Reading (ECHL) to Providence (AHL).
MINNESOTA WILD — Recalled D Marco Scandella from Houston (AHL).
NEW JERSEY DEVILS — Recalled D Matt Corrente from Albany (AHL).
OTTAWA SENATORS — Reassigned G Mike Brodeur to Binghamton (AHL).
TAMPA BAY LIGHTNING — Recalled G Cedrick Desjardins from Norfolk (AHL).

AHL

LEAGUE OFFICE — Suspended Connecticut RW Mats Zuccarello one game for his actions during Friday's game against Worcester.
CHARLOTTE CHECKERS — Reassigned D Kyle Lawson, F Matthew Pistilli and F Jared Staal to Florida (ECHL).

NFL

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

EAST	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
x-New England	12	2	0	.857	446	303
N.Y. Jets	10	4	0	.714	295	259
Miami	7	7	0	.500	239	261
Buffalo	4	10	0	.286	273	353
SOUTH						
Indianapolis	8	6	0	.571	381	342
Jacksonville	8	6	0	.571	319	365
Tennessee	6	8	0	.429	322	282
Houston	5	9	0	.357	333	386
NORTH						
x-Pittsburgh	10	4	0	.714	307	220
Baltimore	10	4	0	.714	324	253
Cleveland	5	9	0	.357	252	271
Cincinnati	3	11	0	.214	281	362
WEST						
Kansas City	9	5	0	.643	322	281
San Diego	8	6	0	.571	388	260
Oakland	7	7	0	.500	353	330
Denver	3	11	0	.214	292	415

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

EAST	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Philadelphia	10	4	0	.714	412	339
N.Y. Giants	9	5	0	.643	360	288
Washington	5	9	0	.357	268	343
Dallas	5	9	0	.357	354	396
SOUTH						
x-Atlanta	12	2	0	.857	369	261
New Orleans	10	4	0	.714	354	270
Tampa Bay	8	6	0	.571	280	290
Carolina	2	12	0	.143	183	350
NORTH						
Chicago	9	4	0	.692	253	228
Green Bay	8	6	0	.571	333	220
Minnesota	5	8	0	.385	230	274
Detroit	4	10	0	.286	308	329
WEST						
St. Louis	6	8	0	.429	258	295
Seattle	6	8	0	.429	279	363
San Francisco	5	9	0	.357	250	314
Arizona	4	10	0	.286	255	370

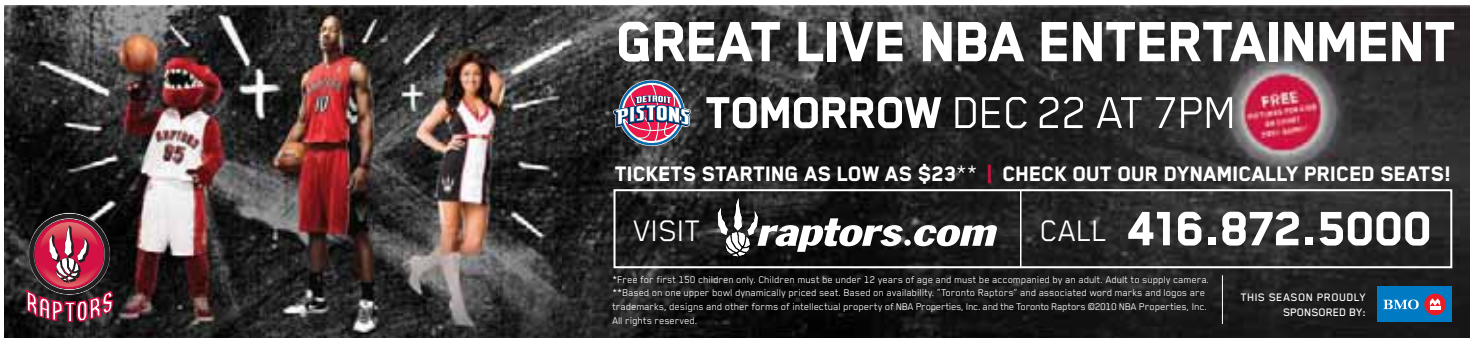
x — clinched playoff berth.

WEEK 15

Last night's result
Chicago at Minnesota
Sunday's results
Atlanta 34 Seattle 18
Baltimore 30 New Orleans 24
Buffalo 17 Miami 14
Carolina 19 Arizona 12
Cincinnati 19 Cleveland 17
Dallas 33 Washington 30
Detroit 23 Tampa Bay 20 (OT)
Indianapolis 34 Jacksonville 24
Kansas City 27 St. Louis 13
New England 31 Green Bay 27
N.Y. Jets 22 Pittsburgh 17
Oakland 39 Denver 23
Philadelphia 38 N.Y. Giants 31
Tennessee 31 Houston 17

WEEK 16

Thursday's game
(All times Eastern)
Carolina at Pittsburgh, 8:20 p.m.
Saturday's game
Dallas at Arizona, 7:30 p.m.
Sunday's games
Tennessee at Kansas City, 1 p.m.
San Francisco at St. Louis, 1 p.m.
N.Y. Jets at Chicago, 1 p.m.
Baltimore at Cleveland, 1 p.m.
New England at Buffalo, 1 p.m.
Detroit at Miami, 1 p.m.
Washington at Jacksonville, 1 p.m.
Indianapolis at Oakland, 4:05 p.m.
Houston at Denver, 4:05 p.m.
San Diego at Cincinnati, 4:05 p.m.
N.Y. Giants at Green Bay, 4:15 p.m.
Seattle at Tampa Bay, 4:15 p.m.
Minnesota at Philadelphia, 8:20 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 27
New Orleans at Atlanta, 8:30 p.m.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City can't reach top

Miss chance to be atop the Premier League at Christmas for the first time since 1929 Man. United two points ahead of Arsenal for first place

Everton's surprise 2-1 victory denied Manchester City the chance to celebrate Carlos Tevez' decision to stay at Eastlands by moving to the top of the Premier League.

David Moyes' side moved into a two-goal lead through Tim Cahill and Leighton Baines inside 20 minutes.

City pulled one back through Phil Jagielka's own goal after Everton striker Victor Anichebe was sent off, and though the hosts pushed hard for an equalizer, they found Everton's defence and goalkeeper Tim Howard in commanding form.

City defender Kolo Toure was sent off in added time for a second booking in quick succession.

City remains in third while Everton moves up to 14th after only its fourth league win of the season.

Everton have been struggling in recent weeks but the visitors started the game confident and took the lead in the fourth minute.

Anichebe, who has scored just once in 27 months, missed a header on a cross from the left, but the ball fell for Seamus Coleman and he picked out Cahill at the near post to score with a header.

While Pablo Zabaleta was off the field receiving four stitches to his head following a collision with Cahill, Everton doubled its lead in the 19th.

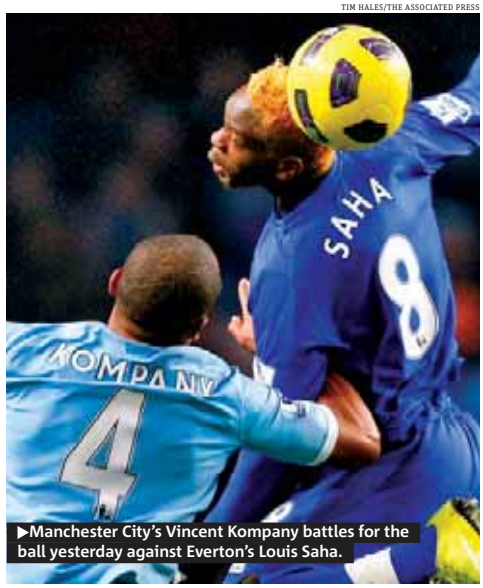
Baines broke forward and after Anichebe's cross was laid off by Cahill, the left back curled a shot into the corner with his weaker right foot.

City began to dominate possession and had Mario Balotelli volley over from an Aleksander Kolarov corner before Howard tipped away a Kolarov free kick.

Adam Johnson replaced James Milner at halftime and City continued to threaten, with Kolarov just missing with two efforts from long range.

City came agonizingly close to an equalizer in the 77th when Yaya Toure sent Balotelli into space. The Italian's clipped shot came back off the post before Howard pulled off a fine block from Tevez on the follow-up. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TIM HALES/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



▶Manchester City's Vincent Kompany battles for the ball yesterday against Everton's Louis Saha.

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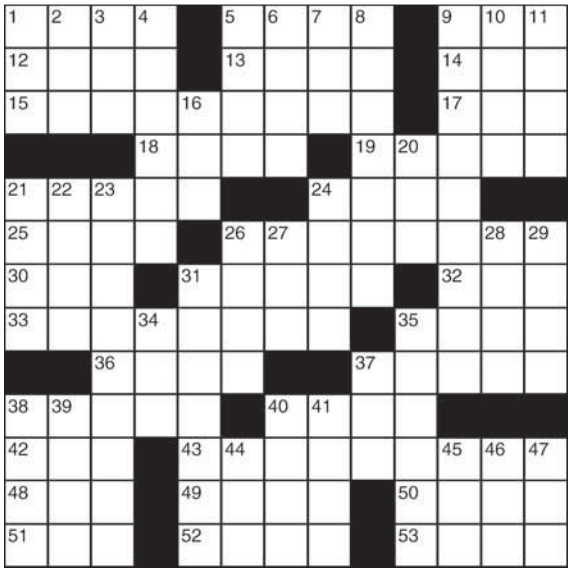

Across

1 Grouch
5 — Abby
9 Old airline initials
12 Stereo alternative
13 Fairy-tale villain
14 Hairpiece
15 David Lynch TV series
17 Single
18 Poet
19 Elephant's ivories
21 Station
24 Fortune's partner
25 Mideast nation
26 Skywalker's story
30 Next-to-last Greek letter
31 Minimum
32 Skater Babilonia
33 Three-striper
35 Penny
36 Verve
37 Specialty
38 Attach
40 "The Wizard of Oz" author
42 Zodiac feline
43 It's 6 inches smaller than a queen
48 Lummox
49 Rim
50 Easter flower
51 Sprite
52 Take a break
53 Oxen's joiner

Down

1 Nashville-based cable channel
2 Tier
3 Blackbird
4 Chocolate-coated treat
5 Active one
6 "Zounds!"
7 Noah's boat
8 Take it from the top
9 Small car
10 Flirtatious gesture
11 A long time
16 Sajak or Summer-all
20 Diggers' grp.
21 Quick swims
22 Gaelic
23 Found partners
24 Rapid
26 Connery or Penn
27 Bronzed, at the beach
28 Carry on
29 Location
31 Hero's hero
34 Day- — colours
35 Attractive
37 Adjective suffix
38 Lotion additive
39 Transaction
40 Elmer's prey
41 Help a hood
44 Praise in verse
45 Life story, for short
46 Wapiti
47 Colouring agent

▶ Yesterday's answer

Sudoku

	2		9	6	4		7	
1								6
		5				4		
8	3		4		9		5	1
				2				
4	7		6		5		8	2
		3				9		
7								8
	9		8	3	7		1	

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer ▶

7	2	3	4	5	8	9	1	6
6	4	9	3	7	1	5	8	2
8	1	5	6	2	9	4	7	3
1	6	7	8	4	2	3	5	9
9	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	8
5	8	2	1	9	3	6	4	7
2	5	1	7	3	6	8	9	4
3	9	8	2	1	4	7	6	5
4	7	6	9	8	5	2	3	1

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PMP, You take me to heaven and back and I thank you. XXXOOO
SQ

My Sweet Daniel, We're always competing and trying prove who loves who the most. So this will prove that I love you more.
SIMONE

Dear Mom,
Happy early birthday! I know that it's not a 'surprise' party like last year, but hopefully you have a wonderful Christmas with most of the family! It will be packed! I can't wait to give you your presents!
LOVE, ASHLEY

happy birthday to you. happy birthday to you. happy birthday dear Robyn. happy birthday to you. the big three "0" - have a good one my "old" friend
DAVID W

Today -1°/-7° Partly cloudy
Wednesday -3°/-5° Flurries 40%
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Today's horoscope

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

♈ Aries March 21-April 20 Keep what you know to yourself today and don't be tempted to boast that you have inside information. If your rivals get even a sniff of what you are up to it will weaken your efforts to move up in the world.

♉ Taurus April 21-May 21 You are not thinking straight, so it might be wise to avoid any major decisions. There are some tricky people out there, so play your cards close to your chest.

♊ Gemini May 22-June 21 It seems like everyone wants a piece of you — but there is only so much of you to go around. Look out for Number One.

♋ Cancer June 22-July 22 Your fears and anxieties seem to be getting a bit out of hand, so you need to remind yourself today of who you are and what it is you want to do with your life.

♌ Leo July 23-Aug.23 Will you get an apology from someone who did you wrong? It's highly unlikely and you know it, so you might as well put the incident behind you and get on with your life.

♍ Virgo Aug. 24- Sept. 22 No matter how desperate you may be to move up in the world you must not take foolish risks. Success is a long-term endeavor, so think where you want to be a year or even five years from now. Then go for it.

♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23 You can't seem to sit still at the moment. Don't buzz here, there and everywhere for no reason — have a plan. Move to a purpose.

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22 Times may be tough but they are not so tough that you can't do something to improve your money situation. The next few weeks will boost your communication skills, so get out there and network.

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21 A lunar eclipse in the final degree of your opposite sign means that feelings are running high at the moment. Others may say nasty things but you are advised not to hit back in kind.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20 Sometimes it's difficult to know what is fact and what is fiction but one thing you'll know for certain today is that you are in command of how you think and how you feel.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18 While everyone else is fretting and fussing over trivial things you will be quietly getting on with what you have to do. Your creative plans are taking shape nicely.

♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20 You cannot run away from your responsibilities, much as you might like to. Do what has to be done and do it so well that next time you will be asked to do something more interesting. ● SALLY BROMPTON

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Departure tax: 25 CUC cash, paid locally

Holguin

Sirenis Playa Turquesa • 4 ★

All-Inclusive • Superior rm.
Jan. 1 - 22 • 1 wk.

$639
+Taxes & other fees: $160
Please add $100 for Sat. departures
Departure tax: 25 CUC cash, paid locally

Varadero

Sirenis La Salina Varadero • 4 ★

All-Inclusive • Standard rm.
Jan. 1 - 24 • 1 wk.

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+Taxes & other fees: $160
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Departure tax: 25 CUC cash, paid locally

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Punta Cana

Occidental Grand Punta Cana • 4 ★

All-Inclusive • Junior suite
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$749
+Taxes & other fees: $176

MEXICO

Cancun/Riviera Maya

Barceló Maya Beach • 4 ★

All-Inclusive • Superior rm.
Jan. 24 • 9 nts.

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+Taxes & other fees: $252

Puerto Vallarta/ Riviera Nayarit

Dreams Villamagna Nuevo Vallarta • 4 1/2 ★

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